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The WHISTLE POST

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

CELEBRATING A HALF CENTURY OF RAILROADING

The Garden State Division (GSD) marked its 50th anniversary with a celebratory dinner at the VFW Hall in Sparta, NJ, on July 27. 71 guests from the GSD, New Jersey Division, and Northeastern Region filled the hall and were entertained by two guest speakers, Tony Koester and Rob Pisani.

Tony's "Tales of Well Known Model Railroaders" included stories of famed model railroaders, Bob Hayden, Allen McClelland, Gordon Odegard, Jim Boyd, and many others. And, the stories were not necessarily about model railroading!

Rob, Vice President of Product Development for Atlas and Atlas O, presented "Manufacturing in China." His discussion on the challenges China brings to our hobby lead to many questions by the guests at the dinner.


In between the two presentations, a buffet dinner was provided and enjoyed by all. The guests also received a Garden State Division coffee mug with the division logo on both sides. A journal was also provided to the guests containing advertisements of the sponsors of the dinner.

In addition to the presentations and dinner, a popular vote con-



▲ From left to right, past GSD President, Tom Matthews, former NMRA At Large Worldwide Director, Tony Koester, past GSD Presidents, Mel Pontin and Tom Wortmann, NER President, "Scooter" Youst, Current GSD President, Ciro Compagno, and NER New Jersey Director, Roger Oliver.

test was held. The ballots were counted and the winners declared after the dinner. Photos of the winning models and other photos of the dinner appear elsewhere in this issue.

A warm thank you is extended to the organizers, presenters, modelers, and guests who made this event possible. Onward to the next half century of the GSD! 



THE CAB


by President *Ciro Compagno*

Celebrating our 50th anniversary all year long!

Wow! One word to describes our recent Summer Meet in Sparta, NJ to celebrate our 50th anniversary. First, I thank our board members for their hard work and tireless commitment to make this happen. For those of you, who volunteer for an organization or event, know I exactly what I mean - right down to stapling the event journal to setting the tables. It takes a lot of work and commitment to pull it all together. Second, I thank our esteemed guest speakers and well-known home layout owners. For they share their stories, open their homes and captivated our attention. They are where the rubber meets the road, and bring model railroading to life. Lastly, I thank all of our attendees for joining us and celebrating this once-in-a-lifetime milestone. They came from all over our Division along with neighboring Divisions and Regions. Overall, the event was a success that we can all be proud of.

As the GSD continues to gain momentum, we continue to seek other venues throughout the Division. We are also looking for fresh ideas and faces to join us. It can be as simple as contributing to the White Elephant Table,

or showing off your model for the Bring 'n' Brag. A step further can be presenting a clinic, having your model judged for the Achievement Program, or opening your home layout. You will be pleasantly surprised how fun it can be to actively participate. Along the way, you expand your hobby network and make life-long friends. The first step is simple: contact any member of the Board in person or by email. The e-mail addresses of the board members and a general email address are included in each issue of the *Whistle Post* and on our website. When making contact with us, simply introduce yourself and what area of interest you may have. We will follow-up with you appropriately to discuss how you can assist us. Do not assume you may not be good enough! We are a mixed group of age, experiences and walks of life with a common cause. In fact, the Division exists to serve its local NMRA members.

In summary, thank you for celebrating our year-long anniversary. And, if you have not joined us - come right in, the door is wide open. There is so much to gain and nothing to lose. 



THE CABOOSE

by Editor *Joe Calderone*

GSD 50th and more on my paper mill project!

This issue will focus on the summer meet and our 50th anniversary celebration. As *Ciro* mentions we had a great turnout with favorable feedback. With over 70 in attendance this was well above our expectations. Now to build on the momentum! Time to get active.

With the writing of this edition we are bit behind schedule as work/life balance issues have kept me from getting to this issue, so please bear with me. With the coming of the fall our attention once again turns to our basements and getting to work on the layout. With the upcoming fall meet, the regional convention, and in November the New Jersey OPSIG and LDSIG meet, there is certainly a lot of model railroad time taken up.


Another fall event that I always look forward to is the November is the annual open house tours:

<http://www.modelrailroadopenhouse.com/>

The November open house tour is set up by volunteers and this year will host 124 layouts in New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware and Maryland. The web site has a great schedule with maps to the various homes and clubs starting at the end of October and all through November. This a great way to grab some buddies, get in the car, and spend a nice fall day seeing great layouts and meet lots of new people. This event is not sponsored by the NMRA but is run

very well by Bruce Freidman, who is also opening his wonderful CSX layout. The well thought out schedule with maps will help you make a great day out!

The real dilemma with all these activities going on is to find time to get back to that basement and get some projects moving along. I have recently been looking at how I want to address some scenery on certain parts of the layout. As I have moved along the layout completing scenes with structures and scenery, I found some scenes easy to visualize and complete while other sections don't seem to want to come together so easily. When this happens I tend to step back and wait till some inspiration hits me and gets my modeling juices flowing. This is where going on layout tours and picking up old issues of model railroading magazines can help. Some times driving around also helps. If you can get one centerpiece of a scene, perhaps an odd building, terrain feature, or a road, it may give you the right inspiration to frame a scene. Of course we are always left with our selective compression but if you can capture one or two of the key elements in a scene you want to model you should have no trouble recreating the scene.

Of course you have to find the right scene first and there in lies the challenge! 

AT THE THROTTLE

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50th Anniversary Dinner



GSD President, Ciro Compagno, presenting Certificates of Appreciation to presenters Tony Koester ▲ and Rob Pisani▼



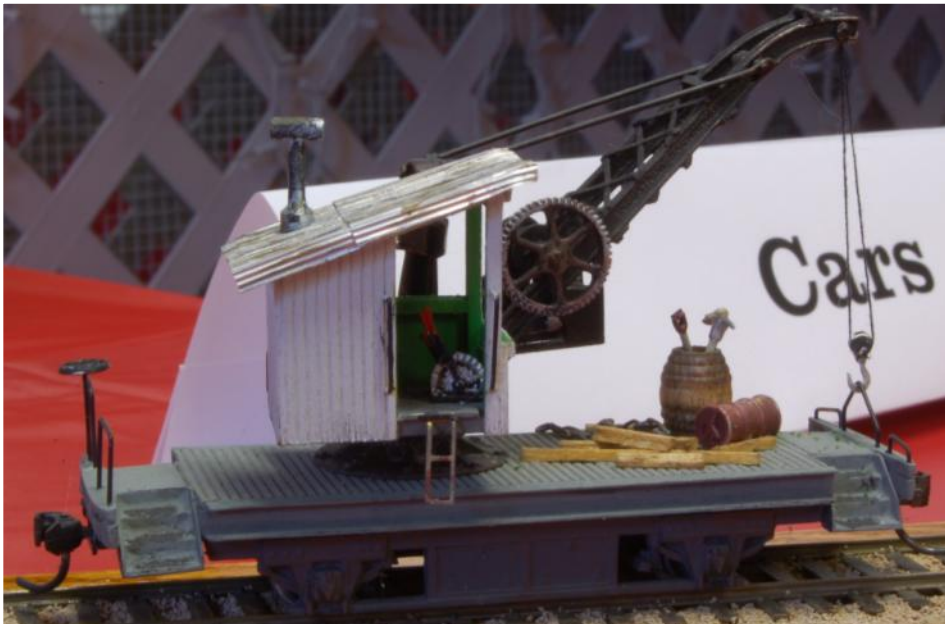


Popular Vote Model Contest Winners



▲ Bruce De Young won in the Diesel Locomotive category for his Susquehanna 70-ton GE locomotive.

▼ Frank Neufeld kitbashed this derrick car using parts from bobber ca-boose and loading dock kits to win the Cars category.



▲ Joe Calderone's mattress factory, produced by Bar Mills, won the Structures category.

▼ Anne, an inspection locomotive built by Tom Griffiths, won the popular vote in the Steam Locomotive category.



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
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Ramapo Valley
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ramapovalleyrailroad.com

Bound Brook Presbyterian
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Bound Brook Cemetery
Office Building
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Bound Brook, NJ 08805
Riley1644@verizon.net

Send Club Information to
Club Liaison:
Jim Homoki
heavyelectric@netscape.net

AP Corner

Bruce De Young, Achievement Program Chair

GSD member Dr. Mark Moritz made his first foray into the Achievement Program by bringing two scratch built HO scale cars to our 50th Anniversary Dinner Meet for evaluation. Tom Casey, Tom Wortmann, and I snuck some time away from the afternoon's activities to evaluate Mark's models.

These nicely crafted models feature some beautifully detailed under frames, with highly detailed brake rigging.


I am delighted to say that both achieved scores that qualified them for Merit Awards.

Congratulations, Mark!

Mark's plans on entering these two models, and perhaps more, in the Model Contest at the NER Convention in Laconia, New Hampshire later in October. Good luck, Mark.

As I have mentioned in previous columns, we are seeing a rising interest in the Achievement Program here in the Garden State Division. By the time you read this, I will have processed two applications for the Golden Spike Award. Look forward to reading more about these in the next issue of the *Whistle Post*.

In November, I will bring a team of qualified Achievement Program evaluators to Staten Island, where we will visit five different layouts to see if they qualify for a total of six different Certificates. Stay tuned.

In the meantime, if you have a model that you would like evaluated, or if you would like someone to visit your layout to see if you might qualify for one of the Achievement Program Certificates, simply contact me at bdeyoung@optonline.net. 



▲ **Mark's CB&Q Furniture Car**



▲ **Mark's Lackawanna Caboose**

GSD Co-Sponsoring LDSIG/OPSIG Event

LAYOUT DESIGN SIG



The two largest Special Interest Groups, Layout Design (LDSIG) and Operations (OPSIG), will be joining up for an event in our backyard with the GSD as their co-sponsor. The event is planned for November 2 and 3 in Scotch Plains.

Saturday is the “classroom” day of the event. It will offer a line-up of clinics by some well known model railroaders, including Craig Bisgeier, Ralph Heiss, Dave Ramos, Jim Lincoln, and Arthur Ross. There will also be an “open mic” session to discuss ideas, Railroad Prototype Model displays, and module displays. And, if you have questions on your layout design or about operations, there will be a “Help Desk” set up to assist. Where else can you get experienced model railroad designers to help you with your layout design? Yes, Saturday will be a day to share your ideas and displays with other model railroaders.

And, if Saturday is the “classroom” day, Sunday is “field trip” day. Whatever you learned on Saturday in the “classroom” you will see how those lessons were put into practice during your “field trip.” On the layout tours, you have the opportunity to visit layouts around the region and see how layout owners designed their layouts, operate them, and what they learned from their layouts.



The cost of the event is \$10 if you register before October 26. You can register on-line at <http://www.hansmanns.org/ld-op-nj/index.htm> or download a form from the same website and mail it in. If you miss the registration deadline, you can also register at the door at the cost of \$15.

So come and learn something fun in the classroom and take a field trip, or two!

NJ LDSIG/OPSIG Event

Union County Vocational-Technical School
1776 Raritan Road
Scotch Plains, NJ

November 2-3, Saturday 8-5, Sunday 10-4

Pre-registration by October 26 is \$10
Registration at the door is \$15

A Beautiful Day in Ramsey

It was a beautiful autumn day for the GSD Fall Meet. There were two enjoyable clinics given in the morning followed by layout tours of seven layouts and a museum.


Bryan Bussey of Eastern Seaboard Models (www.esmc.com), gave a clinic on Rapid Prototyping. Most of those in attendance were amazed at the level of detail that Bryan was able to accomplish in N scale. There were many requests by members for Bryan to consider producing his N scale products in other scales. Bryan covered the design process, materials, and manufacturing of his models.

Fred Delliacono gave an informative and entertaining presentation on his under table roundhouse. When Fred was faced with having many locomotives and no space on the layout for a turntable and roundhouse, he developed a "cartridge" system of bringing his locomotives onto the layout and storing the cartridges underneath the layout. This eliminated the handling of delicate steam locomotives.

The layout tours were also enjoyed by the membership. O scale, HO scale, N scale, narrow gauge, and standard gauge were all represented in the layout tours.

Two home layouts were open in the afternoon. Fred Delliacono and Ted Brandon opened their homes for everyone to see their HO and On30 empires. Several clubs also had their doors open. The NYSME club had both layouts, HO and O, up and running for the GSD. The Ramapo Valley had their HO scale layout running and there was also an N-Trak club that had some of their modules set up in the home of one of their club members.

Maps to see prototype sites during the layout tours was also provided. And, as a bonus, those in attendance were able to tour the Old Mahwah Station and an Erie caboose as part of the Mahwah Museum. The Museum even had an HO layout to see.

So, another successful meet came to a close. And, now we look forward to the next meet in Scotch Plains in February. Keep an eye on our website! 

More photos on page 8



▲ *Sunlight streams into the Old Mahwah Station, capturing a moment in time.*

Photo by Jim Walsh

▼ *A few GSD members are found exiting the Erie caboose at the Mahwah Museum*

Photo by Bruce DeYoung





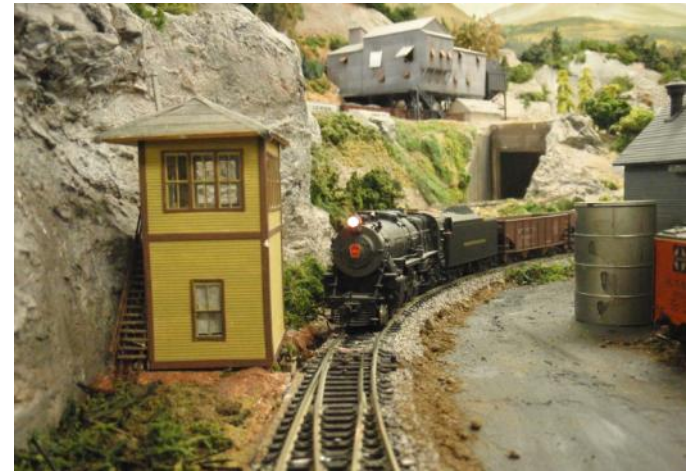
▲ Bruce DeYoung and ▼ Andy Brusgard discussing their models during the Bring 'n Brag portion of the meet.



▼ Fred Dellaiacono during his presentation of his under table roundhouse. When you don't have space for a turntable and roundhouse, there are alternatives!



◀ Bryan Bussey of Eastern Seaboard Models (www.esmc.com) presented a very interesting clinic on Rapid Prototyping. His presentation covered the design process, materials, and manufacturing of his N scale kits. Ciro Compagno presents Bryan, shown on the left, with a certificate of appreciation for his clinic



▲ Pennsy steam, with a glowing headlight, coming around a curve on Fred Dallaiacono's Ramapo Central HO layout.

Photo by Ciro Compagno

▼ Two trains meet at the Rio Verde station on Ted Brandon's On30 layout

Photo by Jim Walsh



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Welcome to our New GSD Members!

Mason Logie Jr.
Ted Brandon
Jared Davis
Bill Smallwood


Charles Walsh
Joseph Gamoran
Maryann Walsh
Robert Brickman

GSD Board Meeting Minutes



The Meeting Minutes have now been moved to the GSD website and a clickable link is provided to the left. 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.

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>

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COVING THE CORNERS ON THE OLD MAIN LINE!

STORY AND PHOTOS BY JIM FAWCETT

Although several prolific modelers have downplayed the worthiness of coving corners, my perfectly sheet-rocked corners still bugged me as I reached the point of “now or never.” So I decided to find a way to use an available 4 x 8 ft. sheet of .040 styrene that would be strong, but not so much as to cause significant damage to the sheetrock when the eventual day comes to move. For both of those reasons I determined that any type of adhesive was out. I was intrigued however, by a recent on-line article that used temporary stapling while a ramp of drywall mud dried forming an edge that the styrene would ultimately push against, thereby holding it in place. I was not willing to take such a leap of faith,

so I fiddled with the idea of somehow keeping the staples.

The photos show my solution using 2 in. vertical strips of .040 styrene glued to each of my 16 x 24 in. corner pieces and exposing a ½ in. tab for stapling on each side. Then successive coats of mud using 3 in., 4 in. and 6 in. trowels ramp up easily against the styrene edge covering the staples. Sanding, priming and painting finished off the task easily. I was so pleased with the result that I used the same method for a large expanse covering a former doorway, augmented with j-moulding on a 1x2 frame for support. 

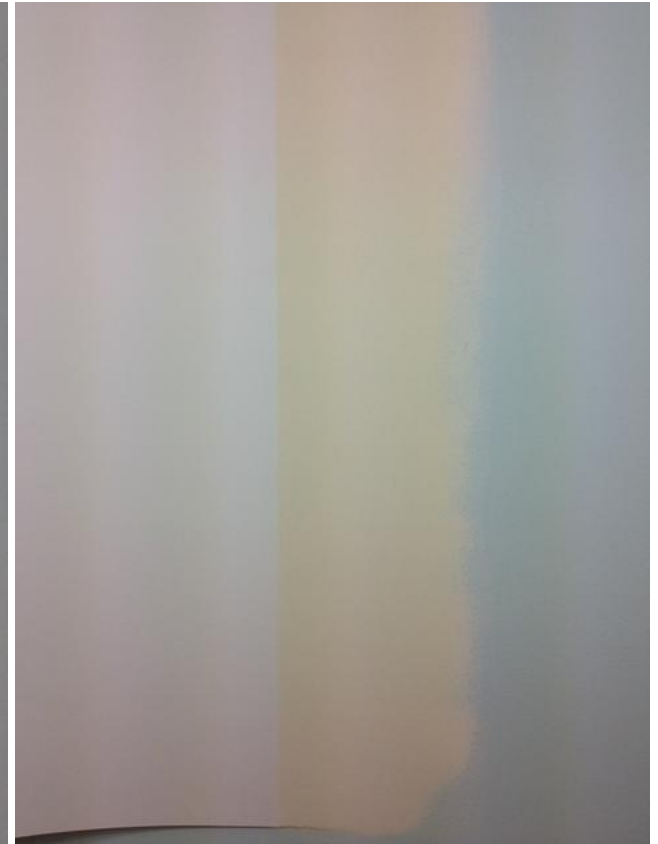
▼ .040 styrene forms the coved corner



▼ This close-up of coved corner shows the 1/2 in. tab and staples after attaching it to the wall



▼ Multiple applications of mud, followed by sanding resulted in a smooth corner.



More photos on Page 11



2008 The division held meets at the Ramapo Valley Railroad Club in Ho-Ho-Kus, the Model Railroad Club in Union, the New York Society of Model Engineers in Carlstadt and a summer barbecue was hosted by the Garden State Model Railway Club in North Haledon. The division sponsored the youth program at Sleepy Lagoon Beach in Lake Mohawk. The division established a logo for the division based on the CNJ's logo. The Paul Mallory Trophy is created to award a member that exhibits excellence in modeling skills. The trophy was formerly the Delaware Trophy II that was awarded at NER conventions for ingenuity by the Summit-New Providence Club. Norman Frowley was awarded the Paul Mallory Award as its first recipient.


2009 The division hosted meets at the Ramapo Valley Railroad Club in Ho-Ho-Kus, the Model Railroad Club in Union, a joint meet with the New Jersey Division in Middletown and a summer barbecue at the Garden State Model Railway Club in North Haledon. The division sponsored the Youth Program at the Sleepy Lagoon Beach in Lake Mohawk. The program was also featured in the NMRA's national magazine, Scale Rails. Tom Piccirillo became Master Model Railroader number 418. Chuck

Diljak received the Paul Mallory Award.

2010 The division hosted meets at the Ramapo Valley Railroad Club in Ho-Ho-Kus, the Model Railroad Club in Union, the New Jersey Live Steamers and a summer barbecue at the Garden State Railway Club in North Haledon. Hunterdon County, NJ rejoins the division. The division introduces a new website. Norman Frowley received the Paul Mallory Award.

2011 Norman Frowley became President of the division. The division hosted meets at the Pacific Southern Model Railroad Club in Rocky Hill, the Model Railroad Club in Union, and the Ramapo Valley Railroad Club in Ho-Ho-Kus. In addition to the meets, the division held an ice cream social at the Whippany Railway Museum. Ed Fraedrich, a director of the division, passes away. Tom Piccirillo received the Paul Mallory Award.

2012 Division members on Staten Island hosted the division's winter meet, with five layouts open for visits. The spring was held at the Model Railroad Club in Union, featuring three private layouts for visits. The summer meet was held at the Sterling Mining Museum in Ogdensburg followed by seven layouts on tour. The division's fall meet was held in New Brunswick followed by four layout tours. Joe Calderone became editor of the *Whistle Post*.

2013 On March 20, the division became fifty years old. 



▲ A coat of paint and the corner is complete

▼ Try to locate the corners in this photo!



THE TIMETABLE

Thursday-Sunday, October 17-20,
NER Regional Convention,
"Tracks to Lakeport 2013",
Laconia, NH.

For more information:

<http://seacoastnmra.org/seacoast/Welcome.html>

Saturday & Sunday, November 2 & 3,
The New Jersey Model Railroad
Layout Design and Operations SIG Event,
Scotch Plains, NJ.

For more information:

<http://www.hansmanns.org/ld-op-nj/index.htm>

Sunday, February 9 (Snow Date Feb 23),
GSD Winter Meet
Scotch Plains, NJ

Saturday, May 17,
NJD/GSD Joint Spring Meet,
Middletown, NJ



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