

INSIDE

<u>PARK RIDGE WINTER EVENT</u>	<u>1</u>
<u>THE CAB AND THE CABOOSE</u>	<u>2</u>
<u>TIMETABLE</u>	<u>3</u>
<u>AT THE THROTTLE</u>	<u>6</u>
<u>MER & NER CONVENTIONS</u>	<u>6</u>
<u>FALL EVENT</u>	<u>7</u>
<u>THE CLUB CAR</u>	<u>10</u>
<u>AP CORNER</u>	<u>10</u>
<u>ORDER COAL NOW!</u>	<u>11</u>
<u>TOOLS AND TIPS</u>	<u>12</u>
<u>NOTICE OF ELECTIONS</u>	<u>12</u>
<u>MAP AND DIRECTIONS</u>	<u>13</u>
<u>GSD INFO</u>	<u>14</u>



www.nergsd.com

Contact email addresses
can be found on Page 5 and
on the website.



The WHISTLE POST

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

Winter Event to be held in Park Ridge, Bergen County

The GSD has again found a new venue, and will be at the Fulton Friendship Lodge #102 in Park Ridge on March 3. Park Ridge is in Bergen County, and a map can be found on Page 13. The start time is 9:00 AM.

In addition to the format you have come to expect with two presentations, Bring 'N Brag, model judging, door prizes, and sales tables in the morning, there will be an open operating session at the Garden State Model Railroad Club in the afternoon. As always, refreshments will be available at the event.

The program will features two clinics. One will be by the GSDs own Chuck Diljak entitled *My Big Fat Clinic* (or, How to Weigh Cars Like the Prototype), and the other by Bruce De Young entitled *Modeling and Detailing Service Stations of the 40's and 50's*.

Chuck already built a crossover and a turnout, but what third track element could he build to qualify for the Civil Engineer certificate and also find a place on his layout? He discovered that a scale track was just the thing he needed for his coal based railroad. Chuck's clinic will discuss how he built his scale track, the accompanying scale house, and how he incorporated it into his operations.

Bruce will discuss how these local businesses looked very different and provided different services in the 1940's and 1950s than their contemporary counterparts, and every

town had at least one. If you're modeling late steam or transition era, this clinic will help you model these vital small businesses accurately.

The Garden State Northern club layout will be open to all attendees in the afternoon for an operating session. The current layout was started in 1992 and has a double track mainline of 275'. Jobs are assigned in sequence and governed by a fast clock, and signals. A Dispatcher sets routes / signals, and is also responsible for unlocking main line switches when needed to do local work. Individual jobs can be as simple as running a train out and making station stops, to performing a number of moves up on the branch line. There are four yardmaster jobs, two in the main freight yard (Albatross), one in the main Passenger terminal, and one in the midpoint yard (Middletown). Except for the Dispatcher and Passenger Terminal, all jobs are walkaround. The club website is www.gsmrrclub.org

The New York Society of Model Engineers (NYSNE) will be open for visitation that afternoon. Though there will be no formal operating session, visitors will be able to examine the layouts and operating systems of both railroads.

The HO Scale layout uses NCE-DCC with JMRI and the O Scale layout uses an elaborate OS System.: "Old School" – rheostats and toggle switches. Run a train on one or the other or both layouts. The location and contact information for the club can be found on Page 3. **WP**



THE CAB by President Bruce De Young, MMR

Busy Fall

As is often the case, Fall offered a cornucopia of model railroading events from which to partake. In chronological order, I had the opportunity to attend our own GSD Fall Event in Franklin (Sussex County) on Saturday, September 23rd where I gave a clinic on blending foregrounds and backgrounds; the MER's Susquehannock Convention in Harrisburg, PA from October 12 - 15 where I gave a total of five different clinics; and the NER's "Rails to the Gilded Age" Convention in Newport, RI from November 9th - 12th, where I gave another clinic. All three events were characterized by great clinics, interesting model railroads to visit, and opportunities to spend quality time with friends.

More information on our fall event in Franklin can be found elsewhere in this issue, but let me say a bit more about both regional conventions.

I have attended many MER Conventions over the past ten years, and they all have been well organized. This year's convention in Harrisburg was no exception. Because the New Jersey Division with which we have an annual joint event is part of the MER, we always see familiar faces at the Convention. In addition, the Susquehanna Division of the MER was the sponsoring Division this year, and we have many friends in that Division as well. I was happy to see a nice group of GSD folks in attendance, taking advantage of the closeness of the convention hotel.

Before moving on to the NER's Convention, I want to just share two models from the Contest Room in Harrisburg. The first is a great Jersey Central caboose modeled by our Jim Homoki. This model earned a Merit Award and also garnered a few other awards. More about his model in our next issue of the newsletter.



(Continued on the next page)



THE CABOOSE by Editor Jim Homoki

Private Roadnames

As much as I like building and buying the most detailed and prototypically accurate locomotives and rolling stock I can, I also like the idea of modeling my own private railroad. Starting with a name, it is the prototypical kind of names I like, not some fanciful name, inside joke name, or clever spellings (i.e. the "Gorre and Daphetid"). I'm sure all of you can think of a few well known model railroads that have been developed with histories, heralds, and even route maps. All that effort reinforces the idea the models are part of the real life railroad network. When done well, a layout that includes a private roadname can appear to be a real railroad.

My railroad name, Newark Terminal (NT), was conceived over 30 years ago. Simple, admittedly not very creative, but definitely plausible. Many major cities had a terminal railroad that was nearly always jointly owned by the trunk lines that served that city. Chicago had several of these, with the Belt Railway of Chicago being the largest in the US. Owned by 6 Class I railroads, the mainline is only 28 miles long but they operate over 300 miles of track! Another terminal road that still exists is the TRRA, or Terminal Railroad Association of St. Louis. The TRRA is still jointly owned by 5 Class I railroads.

There were also smaller independent lines that served industrial areas. They were a different type of terminal road, one which handled the final leg of the journey for the railroad car. Most are gone now. Our area had the Hoboken Shore, Bush Terminal, and New York Dock Railway, among others.

Back to the NT...the NT is jointly owned by Penn Central (previously PRR) and CNJ. The center of operations is....take a guess.... Newark, NJ, and the time frame I model is firmly set in the early 1970s. Connections, in theory at least, are also made with the Lehigh Valley at their Oak Island yard. I don't model any of the LV, but wish I could fit it in.

All in all, a terminal road in the Newark/Elizabeth area is something that could have been. I've seen a Port of New York Authority (now the Port Authority of NY & NJ) map that showed a planned belt line around the North Jersey terminals. It never made it past the planning stages.

Terminal railroads rarely had their own freight equipment for interchange, but a few did. More on that in the next issue of the Whistle Post. **WP**

The Timetable *Upcoming Events*

GSD Winter Event Saturday March 3, 9 AM–12 Noon at the Fulton Friendship Lodge #102, 147 Kinderkamack Road, Park Ridge, NJ 07656. A special operating session will be held in the afternoon at the Garden State Model Railroad Club.

Jersey Central Chapter NRHS “Mother Seton” Train Show Sunday March 4 9 AM-3:30 PM at Mother Seton High School, Exit 135 on the GSP, Clark, NJ. \$5 Admission <http://jcrhs.org/rrshow.html>

World’s Greatest Hobby on Tour Show March 10 and 11, New Jersey Expo Center, Edison, NJ www.wghshow.com

NJD Event Saturday March 10, 9 AM–12 Noon at Switlik Park, 5 Fisher Place, Hamilton Twp., NJ 08620 Program to be announced.

New York Society of Model Engineers Annual Spring Open House Saturdays and Sundays March 10, 11, 17, 18, 24, 25. 1 PM-6 PM 341 Hoboken Road, Carlstadt, NJ See www.Facebook.com/modelengineers for details

Railroad Prototype Modelers Meet Valley Forge March 23-25 at the Desmond Great Valley Hotel, Malvern, PA.. See the back page or www.rpmvalleyforge.org for more information

Garden State Model Railroad Club Spring Open House April 7, 8, 15, 15. Club details and contact information on Page 10.

Susquehanna Division Event 3 June 9, 9 AM Lewistown Station, PRRT&HS Archives and Observation Tower <http://www.susquehannanmra.org/>

GSD/NJD Joint Event Saturday May 12, 9 AM-12 Noon at Camp Evans, Wall Twp., NJ. Hosted this year by the NJD. The annual meeting for the GSD will be held with New Officers and Directors announced.

NERPM New England/Northeast Railroad Prototype Modelers Meet June 1-2 at the Holiday Inn, 1 Bright Meadow Blvd., Enfield, CT. <http://nerpm.org/index.html>

GSD Summer Event to be held at Lone Eagle Brewing, Flemington, NJ. Details to be announced.

NMRA 2018 National Convention to be held in Kansas City

Northeastern Region 2018 Convention “The Erie Limited” September 13-16, Mahwah, NJ. Hosted by the Garden State Division.

MidEastern Region 2018 Convention “Crossroads of the MER” October 3-7, Rockville, MD <http://potomac-nmra.org/MER2018/Main/index.html>

(The Cab continued from the previous page)

The second model was entered by Bruce Barrett from the New Jersey Division. This 1.5" scale model earned a Merit Award and should help put to bed the thought that the NMRA is all about HO Scale. What a beautiful model when you see it up close!



Above: This 1.5" scale PRR switcher by Bruce Barrett is powered by four deep cycle batteries and includes a DCC sound system. The lift is not just for moving the model into the hotel; it is needed to raise it onto the bed of his pickup truck for transport!

The NER Convention in Newport, RI was also well organized and featured great clinics, layouts, and local tours. Needless to say, the location was terrific to visit also! They organized a small train show to run concurrent with the Convention, and I just couldn't help bringing a few more models home. There was a great turnout of GSD members in Newport, and one member, Steve Ascolese, had a model which earned a Merit Award entered in the Contest Room. We also had a great opportunity to promote next year's NER Convention - The Erie Limited - which our Division will host in Mahwah, NJ on September 13-16, 2018.

One of my favorite aspects of any regional convention is the opportunity to visit fantastic layouts that I would otherwise never see. This year was no different. Here are photos from two layouts, one from the MER Convention, and one from the NER Convention. From the MER Convention, I have chosen Tom O'Connor's On3 Central Grove Lumber Co. layout, and from the NER Convention I have selected Marshall Sommer's HO scale Rhode Haven layout.
(Continued on the next page)

NEXT DIVISION EVENT

TIME:

9:00 AM TO 12:00 PM
OPERATING SESSION AT THE
GARDEN STATE MODEL
RAILROAD CLUB FROM
1:00 PM TO 4:00 PM

DATE:

SATURDAY, MARCH 3

LOCATION:

FULTON FRIENDSHIP LODGE #102
147 KINDERKAMACK ROAD
PARK RIDGE, NJ
EVENT FEE: \$5

WEBSITE FOR MEETS:

SEE PAGE 3 AND

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

AGENDA:

REFRESHMENTS
TWO CLINICS
WHITE ELEPHANT TABLES
BRING 'N BRAG
DOOR PRIZES
MODEL JUDGING
AFTERNOON OPERATING SESSION

(The Cab continued from the previous page)

Both of these layouts featured terrific backdrops that blended very well with the foreground scenes. There were many other great layouts that I saw, but space is limited.



Above: Two stall
engine house on Tom
O'Connor's Central
Grove Lumber layout

Right: Some mills on
Marshall Sommer's
Rhode Haven Layout



*(Continued on the
next page)*



Above: Two company houses on Tom O'Connor's
On3 Layout.

(The Cab continued from the previous page)

This September, we will be hosting the NER Convention here in northern NJ. If you have never attended a regional convention, here will be your chance! We are still looking for volunteers to help run the event. If you want to give a clinic or help out at the convention, please contact either me or Tom Wortmann. **WP**



Above: A harbor scene on Marshall Sommer's HO scale layout

**Right: Immediate Past President
Ciro Compagno with the Erie Limited Poster
in Newport**



The GSD Welcomes New Members

The following have joined the NMRA and GSD within the last few months. Please welcome them:

Jon Fourre	Andrew Lawn	Rick Lynch
Gregory White	Eugene Singer	Ana Keveney
		Wes White

AT THE THROTTLE

President and
Achievement Program Chair
Bruce De Young
pres@nergdsd.com

Immediate Past President
Ciro Compagno
richmondharbor@gmail.com

Vice President and Clinic Chair
Jim Fawcett
vp@nergdsd.com

Treasurer and NER VP
Bob Dennis
treas@nergdsd.com

Secretary
Jim Walsh
sec@nergdsd.com

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

Director and Webmaster
Tom Wortmann
webmaster@nergdsd.com

Director and Membership Chair
Tom Casey
members@nergdsd.com

Director and WP Editor
Jim Homoki
whistlepost@nergdsd.com

Director
Mark Moritz
mwmoritz@optonline.net

Director
Chuck Diljak
nmra_chuck@yahoo.com

Director
Fred Dellaiacono
ramapo41@gmail.com

Director
Paul Harbord
pwharbord@gmail.com

GSD MEMBERS AT THE MER AND NER CONVENTIONS

By Jim Homoki

Garden State Division members were represented at both the MER Susquehannock Convention in Harrisburg held October 12-15 and the NER Rails to the Glided Age Convention in Newport held November 9-12. The common denominator was GSD President Bruce De Young—can you pick him out? **WP**

Right: The Harrisburg convention was not far from GSD territory and offered a great selection of clinics and tours. As an NMRA member you are able to attend any event in any Region for the cost of the registration.

Below: As would be expected, a larger group of GSD members were present in Newport, Rhode Island, supporting the home region.



FALL EVENT IN SUSSEX COUNTY

By Bruce De Young

Your Division leadership team is constantly trying to find new venues for our quarterly events, with an eye on moving those locations around the Division in order to meet the needs of members throughout the GSD. A second benefit in moving the location around is that we get close to new layouts for our afternoon tours. By having our fall event in Franklin (Sussex County), we accomplished both goals.

The first of the morning's clinics was on the Sterling Railway, presented

by Doc Bayne. This line served the iron mines on Sterling Mountain, producing iron ore as well as billets that would then be shipped via the Erie Railroad to steel mills in Pennsylvania.

I gave the second presentation entitled "Scenery Tips for the Last 6" of Your Layout". This clinic utilized many layout and prototype photos to illustrate concrete tips to help you achieve the desired goal of blending your scenery into the backdrop.
(Continued on the next page)



Left: Doc Bayne with the Title Slide of his presentation on the Sterling Railway. (Jim Walsh photo)

Right: During the 'Bring and Brag' segment of the event, Fr. David Garretson discusses a structure project. (Jim Walsh photo)



(Fall Event continued from the previous page)

Right: This beautiful HO scale model of the New Haven's Canaan Union Depot was also part of the Bring and Brag. (Jim Walsh photo)



One last highlight of the morning's events was our opportunity to recognize Anthony Piccirillo for his many years of service to the Division. Anthony recently retired from the Board after having served as Director, Secretary, and Treasurer of the Division. I hope that Anthony realizes how much we all appreciated his contributions over the years!

Left: Anthony Piccirillo receives a plaque from President Bruce De Young in appreciation of his many years of service to the GSD. (Jim Walsh photo)

(Continued on the next page)



(Fall Event continued from the previous page)

After lunch on their own, attendees could visit four great layouts. We want to thank Ted Pamperin and Anthony Piccirillo for once again opening their layouts to our members. We also want to thank Mark Lutz and Kai Ebinger for opening their layouts for the first time.

If you missed any of these layouts, they may be open for either visiting or operating at the NER Convention in September. In the meantime, I hope to see you at our winter event on March 3rd! **WP**

Left: A roundhouse and turntable with 23 tracks on Kai Ebinger's layout. Nearly every track was holding a steam locomotive. (Bruce De Young photo)

Right: A scene on the layout of Mark Lutz. The road looks like it continues well beyond the backdrop! If you missed Mark's layout it will be open for the NER Erie Limited Convention in September. (Bruce De Young photo)



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
<http://tmrci.org>

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
The Club is looking for a new
building to start a new layout
www.ramapovalleyrailroad.com

Bound Brook Presbyterian
Railroad Club (BBPRR)
Bound Brook Cemetery
Office Building
500 Mountain Avenue,
Bound Brook, NJ 08805
billandmartha3@verizon.net

Staten Island Society of
Model Railroaders
Train Club Room, 3rd Floor
Staff House, Seaview Hospital
460 Brielle Avenue
Staten Island, NY
[http://sismrinc.tripod.com/
index.html](http://sismrinc.tripod.com/index.html)

AP Corner *By Bruce De Young, MMR - Achievement Program Chair*

On Saturday September 23rd, at our Fall Event in Sussex County, I was delighted to present two GSD members their AP Certificates. Anthony Piccirillo earned his Golden Spike Award, and Jim Fawcett (our Division Vice President) earned his Volunteer's Certificate.

Since that time, other Division members have contacted me regarding making application for an AP Certificate. Since Christmas, AP Evaluator Fred Dellaiacono and I visited Chuck Diljak's layout to evaluate his three hand laid track elements needed for his Civil Engineering Certificate. All three earned a Merit Award.

In the next issue I will report on the Mallery Award recipient for 2017. Until then, let me know if you need us to evaluate a model or your layout for an AP Certificate. **WP**



Above Right: GSD President Bruce De Young presents Jim Fawcett with his Volunteer AP Certificate.



Right: Fred Dellaiacono is checking clearances on Chuck Diljak's Scale Track with an NMRA Standards Gauge.

A Billboard: Order Coal Now!

By Chuck Diljak

During World War II, the US government produced many posters as propaganda. The posters promoted conservation, rationing, participation, patriotism, and sacrifice. One of those posters is the one you see here. The purpose of the poster was to encourage the public to purchase coal early due to the scarcity of fuel as a result of the war.

After seeing the poster and due to my interest in anthracite mining, I needed to find a way of using it on my layout. Since I had billboard kits from GC Laser, I decided to see if I could convert this poster into a billboard. Using the program GIMP (<https://www.gimp.org/>) and period correct fonts, I created the billboards you see here. They are presented in O, HO, and N scales for your use. **WP**

Below: This poster inspired Chuck to create the billboards provided on this page.



N Scale



HO Scale

O Scale



TOOLS AND TIPS: THE SPROG AND JMRI

By Jim Walsh

I do not have an operating layout other than a small DC powered "Timesaver" switching layout but I do have a few DCC locomotives. I run them on friends layouts and appreciate how well DCC enhances the operation of the locomotives. During a recent visit to his layout, Mark Lutz gave me a short demonstration of DecoderPro and how it simplifies the adjustment of the settings for a DCC decoder. It got me interested and I started looking at options available for me to get the capability at my home.

DecoderPro is one component of the Java Model Railroad Interface (JMRI) and it presents a graphical user interface that makes it easy to make adjustments to the decoder. I thought that I would need a DCC system with an optional computer interface in order to run DecoderPro but then I discovered the SPROG. The SPROG is a stand-alone DCC programmer when it is connected to a computer but I also discovered that it can function as a layout controller delivering up to one amp of supply current. I purchased a SPROG IIv4 complete with the Programmer, 1.25A Power Supply, USB cable and all the Software. Connecting it and installing the software on my Mac was easy and I had it working quickly. It was helpful in selecting the various options and settings for the decoders and very useful in trying out different sound options for sound decoders. It is a great tool for DCC locomotives. For more information, check the web site at <http://sprog.us.com> WP



Notice of Elections



Deadline for the Ballot is April 1

In accordance with the Bylaws, this year all Officer positions and five Director positions are up for election. Officer positions are one year terms, while Director are two year terms. To run for an Officer position, the member must be in good standing and have served two years (one term) as a Director. Any member in good standing may run for a Director position.

This year, there are several positions that will be open to new candidates. President Bruce DeYoung will be moving out of the Division so will not run for re-election. Directors Tom Wortmann and Fred Dellaiacono have declined to run for re-election. The three other Director seats up for election are held by Andy Brusgard, Tom Casey, and Chuck Diljak.

Interested members should send their name, address, and phone number to Nominations Chairman Ciro Compagno as shown in the Contacts Column on Page 5. The deadline for this election cycle is April 1. Officers and Directors will be installed at the Spring Event to be held in May. WP

Clinicians Wanted

For GSD Events and the NER Convention

We seek members who would like to give a clinic at our Division events and the upcoming NER Convention. 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?

If you would like assist, please contact Jim Fawcett at jim.fawcett@comcast.net.

Left: The components of the SPROG hardware that connect to Jim's programming track. The SPROG is shown at the center of the picture. The green terminal strip on the SPROG connects to the track and the power supply and on the SPROG's other end is a USB cable to connect to the computer. Also shown is a USB memory stick that came loaded with the files to install JMRI.

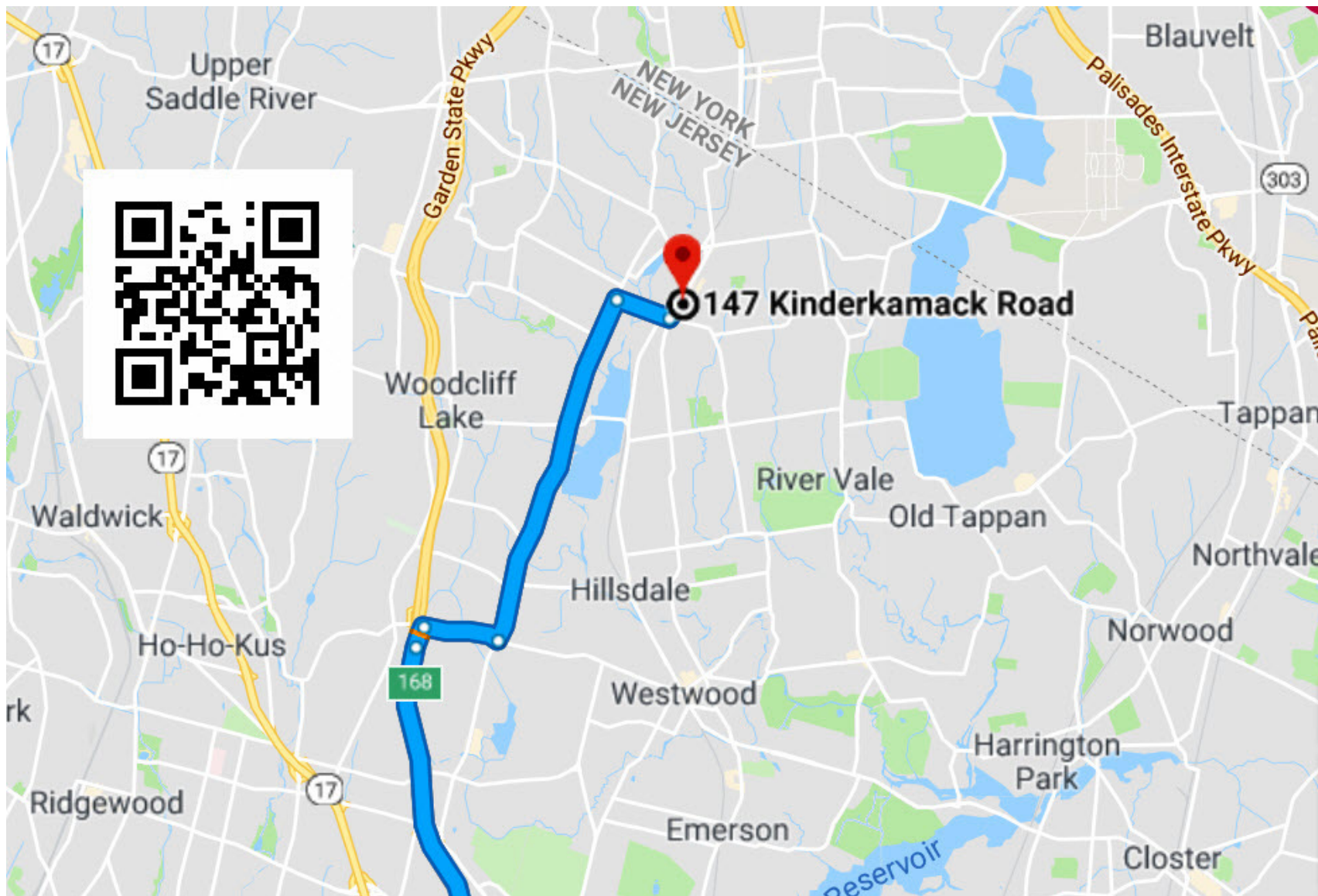
DIRECTIONS FROM THE SOUTH and WEST: Garden State Parkway to Exit 168. At the top of the ramp turn right onto Washington Avenue, turn left onto Pascack Road, right onto Park Avenue, then left onto Kinderkamack Road. The lodge is one block on the right.

MAP FOR THE WINTER EVENT

**Fulton Friendship Lodge #102
147 Kinderkamack Road
Park Ridge, NJ 07656**

PARKING: There is a small parking lot on the right side of the building, or use street parking.

AFTERNOON OPERATING SESSION:
Directions will be provided at the event.



ABOUT THE WHISTLE POST

Editor

Jim Homoki
whistlepost@nergdsd.com

Mailing Address

P.O. Box 43
Flagtown, NJ 08821

Technical Assistant

Chuck Diljak

Division Photographer

Jim Walsh

Deadlines for submissions to the Whistle Post are four weeks prior to the next Division event, as announced in the prior Whistle Post.

COPYRIGHT:

© 2018 GARDEN STATE DIVISION

ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.

DISTRIBUTION OF THIS NEWSLETTER IS ENCOURAGED, BUT IT MAY NOT BE REPUBLISHED IN PART OR IN WHOLE WITHOUT WRITTEN PERMISSION FROM THE EDITOR.



The GSD now has a Twitter account and a Facebook page

Follow the GSD at "GSD of the NMRA@GardenStateDiv"

Meeting Reports, past articles, and complete issues of the Whistle Post can be found on the GSD website
www.nergdsd.com

The RPM Valley Forge returns for its Seventh Edition on March 23-25, 2018

It will be held at the same great location, The Desmond Great Valley Hotel, Malvern, Pa.

Pre-meet events start Thursday evening and Friday morning with operating sessions. Registration opens Friday at 5:30pm. Clinics begin 7pm Friday evening, run all day Saturday, and conclude Sunday at noon. 52 clinics are planned. A vendor room and model display room opens Friday evening, a Saturday evening dinner is available, and there are self guided layout tours Sunday afternoon.

See www.rpmvalleyforge.com for details, a list of the clinics, and to download a registration form.

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. Go to:

<http://www.nmra.org/nmra-magazine>

NER Convention Mahwah, New Jersey



September 13-16, 2018

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 GSD was sorry to hear that The Big Little Railroad Shop has gone out of business. Jan had been liquidating her stock through the end of January and is now closed. She had been very supportive of the GSD through the years. We wish her the best in a well deserved retirement.