



The Whistle Post

The official newsletter of the

Garden State Division

Northeastern Region • National Model Railroad Association, Incorporated
Roger Oliver, Acting Editor 61 Franklin Road Denville, NJ 07834-1558

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Division Gets Re-Organized

By Roger Oliver

Over the years there have been a number of attempts to get the Garden State Division back on the tracks. The latest series of attempts began back in February 2000, when Tom Matthews called a meeting at the Aviation Hall of Fame at Teterboro Airport of NMRA members who live in the area. This meeting piqued the interest of some people and gave a ray of hope to others. Not much happened at this meeting but a review of what happened in the past and a consensus of what we wanted to happen in the future. Otherwise, a few members raised their hands with offers to help if needed and that was about all that came out of that meeting.

I was one of those who raised his hand with an offer to serve as acting Treasurer. Tom later contacted me in the Spring and Summer of 2001 and it was decided to call another meeting in the Fall of 2001. The meeting was set for Sunday, October 23rd at the Train Show at Dover High School. Prior to this meeting I contacted Glenn Glasstetter, President of the Northeastern Region, and got templates for a constitution and bylaws that the NER had made up for its divisions. Tom and I met a couple of times and discussed how the Division should be set up and the templates took the form of our proposed constitution and bylaws for the October meeting.

Meanwhile Tom was busy getting mailing lists from the region and National and trying to make sense of them. In the end more than two hundred and thirty postcards were sent out announcing the October meeting. Many of these lists have not been kept up to date and a number of the cards came back as undeliverable.

The meeting was called to order at 10:25 AM with Tom Matthews presiding. Eleven members from the

Division were present and made up a quorum for the meeting. Tom made some opening remarks about the importance of the Division in the structure of the NMRA. The Division is the primary contact point for the membership with the whole organization. We provide most of the week to week services as far as providing one on one support to each other as we pursue our hobby as well as recruiting new members.

Following Tom's remarks, the meeting reviewed the "Enabling Resolution for the Organization of the Garden State Division". This authorizes Tom Matthews and Roger Oliver to act as President and Secretary-Treasurer on behalf of the Division membership for a set period of time and sets up the procedures for reorganizing and establishing the Garden State Division as a New Jersey corporation and, hopefully, eligible for 501(c)3 tax status under IRS regulations. This resolution passed by a vote of 11 yea, 0 nay, and 0 abstaining.

Next the Constitution was presented and after some discussion it also was passed by a vote of 10 yea, 0 nay and 1 abstaining. The discussion centered on the *Whistle Post* being produced as paper only. One reason for the *Whistle Post* being paper only is that subscriptions to the newsletter were seen as a major source of income for the Division.

Then the Bylaws were read and discussed by the members present. The Bylaws were adopted by a vote of 11 yea, 0 nay, 0 abstaining. Bob Mc Queen was appointed to chair an ad hoc committee to study how Hub Division does their newsletter on the internet and whether we will need to review how the Division will support itself given any changes with the newsletter format. Bob Ames will be working with him on this committee.

Don Jennings was appointed the chairperson of the Nominating Committee and Bob Shepard was

A subscription to the *Whistle Post* does not give you a membership in the Garden State Division. If you're interested in a membership in the Garden State Division you should contact the Secretary -Treasurer. All subscriptions are \$10.00 per calendar year through December of 2002.

appointed to work with him. They will need to make a slate for the January 26th Annual Membership Meeting for the positions of Vice President, Secretary-Treasurer, Director at Large for a half term (2002), and Director at Large for a full term (2002-2003). Richard Teer was appointed chairperson of the Education Program Development Committee and will work on starting the Division's Achievement Program as well as other programs. Roger Oliver will serve as acting editor of the *Whistle Post*.

The Annual Membership Meeting is scheduled for January 26, 2002 between 2 and 4 PM at the Ramapo Valley Club in Hohokus which is in the VFW hall on Cliff Street. There will be an operations session afterwards. [Note - the Ramapo Valley Club uses DCC.]

Copies of the New Constitution and Bylaws will be available at regular meetings of the Garden State Division.

Welcome to the Garden State Division

by Tom Matthews, Director, GSD, NMRA.

We're off and running. I use the term running loosely, as, at this time we can't be sure if we're running or just starting to tick. Nevertheless, we're moving in the right direction.

A Division is the front line of the NMRA. We are the ones who know what we like and what we want our organization to do. The NMRA can only be what we front line members decide to put into it. Some have expressed an interest in the Achievement Program (AP). It certainly would be great to have an active AP in the GSD. This won't

be easy, but we can do it. It will take some members stepping forward. We need members who can act as judges in model contests. The necessary training for that can be gained at Regional Conventions by assisting there in the contests.

Unfortunately, as you read this, the Fall/2001 NER Convention at Albany will most likely be history. I hope to be able to report back after that convention that we have an AP committee in place, as several members will be there and we will participate in the contest judging.

We also need some folks who can step forward and run for elected office. Please contact our Nominations Committee Chair, Don Jennings (donj1044@aol.com or 201-444-9274) if you would like to throw your hat in the ring for VP, or one of two Trustee positions.

Another need is that of activities. Many suggestions have come forth and I'm sure many members have additional thoughts on activities. One of the biggest hurdles in planning activities is finding weekends that have space in them. We will have to just go ahead and schedule things and hope that they don't conflict too much with other things people are doing. I suppose that the old saying that you can't please all the people all of the time is true, but, if we don't at least try to schedule some activities, we won't please anyone anytime. On this light, please contact Rich Teer (richbar@hicom.net or 973-839-0496) with any thoughts you may have on activities. Rich is our Chairman for Education Program Development. This will most likely take the form of activities and may be split into additional committees as time goes on.

Many thanks go to Roger Oliver for the time and hard work he is putting in for the GSD. He will need material for the Whistle Post, so if you have anything to say, let him know. Some articles on rail subjects would be nice (model or prototype), and writing such can help you earn points toward an AP Certificate in the "Railroad Author" category.

Our next meeting will be hosted by the Ramapo Valley Model RR Club at their clubhouse in Ho-Ho-Kus. They have also asked us to participate in an operating session. They use DCC (North Coast Engineering) and invite you to bring DCC equipped HO locomotives and rolling stock to run.

I hope we can better serve you, our members, as we get the working of the GSD oiled up and running better. I do apologize for the poor communication about the first meeting. The bugs in our mailing are being worked out and hopefully should be smooth by December. Bob McQueen is working on a WEB page and it would be helpful if any of you who are "on-line" could forward him your e-mail address at (robert.mcqueen@att.net), please cc to me at (owenwrr@aol.com) and Roger Oliver at (tangram@erols.com). As your Director (to the NER) also let me apologize for the lateness of the "Coupler". Much of the delay may have been caused by the disruption to the USPS caused by the Sept. 11th disasters. At this writing, we hope that the Regional Convention in Albany doesn't suffer too much from this problem. In the meantime, happy railroading,

NOTICE

Any members who are interested in running for VP or Director at Large of the Garden State Division of the NMRA, please contact Don Jennings, the chair of the nominating committee. DonJ1044@aol.com.

UNSOLICITED ADVERTISEMENT

The Garden State Model Railroad Club's 39th Annual Open House celebrating 30 years in Asbury Park, NJ will be held on October 19, 20 & 21 and October 26, 27 & 28.

Come see the huge permanent model railroad display, depicting in HO scale the glory days of railroading between Jersey City, NJ and Scranton, PA. Rail buffs will recognize scenes from the CNJ, LV, DL&W and Laurel Line railroads. Highlights of work-in-progress include working MacMyler coal dumper, Bethlehem Steel and downtown Scranton.

Introductory slide show and layout viewing take about an hour, though visitors are welcome to stay as long as they like. New members are being recruited, as well.

Location: 607 8th Avenue at Deal Lake Drive in Asbury Park, NJ

Hours: Friday 7-9 p.m., Saturday and Sunday 1-5 p.m.

Admission: \$3 adults, \$2 children and seniors.

Directions: From the Garden State Parkway use Exit 98 to Route 66 east. Follow Route 66 to the Asbury Circle. Take circle half way around to Asbury Avenue. Go east on Asbury Avenue to Main Street (just over NJ Transit RR tracks) and make a left on Main Street. Turn right onto 8th Avenue (just before Deal Lake) and club is on the left.

By rail: Club is a one-mile walk south down Main Street from NJ Transit's Allenhurst Station.

Food: Frank's Deli, an Asbury landmark, is three blocks away.

Other rail interest: Allaire steam train is 20 minutes away.

NJ Transit's North Jersey Coast Line runs 4 blocks from club.

Come and support this club in our area

Garden State Division Timetable

The purpose of the timetable is allow the Clubs and other organizations in the general area of the Garden State Division to post their activities for the benefit of our membership. Acceptance of postings is at the discretion of the editors.

O c t o b e r 2 0 0 1

October 19 - 21 and 26 -28 Garden State Model Railroad Club Annual Open House in Asbury Park, NJ. See their advertisement on this page.

October 26 -28 Albany Gateway Convention for the Northeastern Region. For information call John Campbell (860) 568 - 5075.

N o v e m b e r 2 0 0 1

November 23 - 25, 30 - December 2, and December 7 - 9 The Model Railroad Club in Union, NJ will hold its Annual Sound and Light Show. Hours - Fri. 7 - 10 PM, Sat. 12 - 9 PM, and Sun. 12 - 6 PM. The Club is located behind the newly built Home Depot Shopping Center on Rte. 22 eastbound. Telephone (908) 964 - 0724 for information.

J a n u a r y 2 0 0 2

January 26 The Garden State Division Annual Meeting will be held between 2 and 4 PM at the Ramapo Valley Model Railroad Club in the VFW hall in Hohokus, NJ. There will be an operating session afterwards (DCC). Directions are given elsewhere in this issue.

List of new subscribers

William Braun Jr. 30 A Concord Rd. West Milford, NJ 07480
 Richard Brown 29 Cutlass Rd. Kinnelon, NJ 07405
 Peter Brynildsen 12 Dodie Dr. Parsippany, NJ 07054
 Hal Carstens 38 Van Horn Rd. Newton, NJ 07860
 Michael Cuninghame 2 Roosevelt Ave. Cranford, NJ 07016
 Neil Grant 28 Wenonah Ave. Rockaway, NJ 07866
 Curtis Hoelle 953 Potter Ave. Union, NJ 07083
 Mel Israel 333 Silverside Ave. Little Silver, NJ 07739
 Donald Jennings 642 Bartell Pl. Ridgewood, NJ 07450
 Robert McQueen 101 Black River Rd. Long Valley, NJ 07853
 Dr. Alan Mallams 147 Kings Hwy. RR 3 Hackettstown, NJ 07840
 Thomas Matthews 326 N. Lanza Ct. Saddlebrook, NJ 07663
 Louis Matuyza 9 Oping Rd. Pompton Lakes, NJ 07444
 William O'Shaughnessy 37 Garfield Pl. Rutherford, NJ 07070
 Roger Oliver 61 Franklin Rd. Denville, NJ 07834
 William Pelley 1645 Southbrook Dr. Bridgewater, NJ 08807
 John Russo Jr. 27 Copperfield Way Mahwah, NJ 07430
 Robert Shepard 11 Forge Rd. Hewitt, NJ 07421
 John Sheppard 87 Canada Goose Dr. Hackettstown, NJ 07840
 Richard Teer 1 Adobe Dr. Wayne, NJ 07470

New subscribers will be listed in each issue of the *Whistle Post*.

September 23, 2001 General Membership Meeting Minutes

The first meeting of the Garden State Division was called to order at about 10:25 AM at Dover High School in Dover, New Jersey, by Tom Matthews. Thirteen members of the NMRA who live in the territory of the Garden State Division were present and constituted a quorum for the meeting. Tom Matthews made some opening remarks with regards to the importance of the Division level of the NMRA to the purposes of the national. Some of the points covered were the need to encourage young people to come into the hobby. One of the methods mentioned was giving them old copies of model railroading magazines. It was also noted that many news stands no longer sell model railroading magazines. Tom also mentioned that the division would try to have four membership meetings a year. He also discussed the need to start up the Achievement Program in the Division and that interested people in the Division could get the necessary training at the Regional Conventions and local meets. Tom stressed the need to network, schedule activities for the Division, and appoint an Activities Chairperson.

Following these remarks, copies of the "Enabling Resolution for the Organization of the Garden State Division", "Constitution for the Garden State Division", and "Bylaws of the Garden State Division" were distributed to everyone present. Roger Oliver read and explained the "Enabling Resolution for the Organization of the Garden State Division". There were no questions and the resolution passed by a vote of 11 yea/ 0 nay/ 0 abstaining. Next the "Constitution for the Garden State Division" was read. The major points of the constitution were explained and a vote was taken. The Constitution was adopted by a vote of 10 yea/ 0 nay / 1 abstaining. Then the "Bylaws of the Garden State Division" were read and discussed. After questions were answered the Bylaws were adopted by a vote of 11 yea/ 0 nay/ 0 abstaining.

Bob McQueen was concerned that the Division was locking itself into a paper only newsletter. Bob was appointed to chair an ad hoc committee to see how Hub Division works their newsletter on the Web. He will be working with Bob Ames on this project. Don Jennings was appointed the chairperson of the Nominating Committee and Bob Shepard was appointed to the committee as well. They will need to make a slate for the January 19th Annual Membership Meeting for the positions of Vice President, Secretary-Treasurer, Director at Large (2002), and Director at Large (2002-2003). Richard Teer was appointed chairperson of the Education Program Development Committee and will work on starting the Division's Achievement Program as well as other programs. Roger Oliver will serve as acting editor of the Whistle Post. The Whistle Post will be published sometime mid to late October and again in mid December. Articles are being solicited.

The next meeting will be the Annual Membership Meeting on January 26, 2002* at 2:00 PM at the Ramapo Valley Club in Hohokus which is in the VFW hall on Cliff Street. There will be an operation session afterwards. Motion to adjourn was made by Don Jennings and seconded by Rich Teer. Hal Carstens showed some interesting slides of the Lackawana from his collection afterwards.

Balance as of 10-14-01

\$ 300.00

Respectfully submitted,
Roger Oliver / Secretary-Treasurer

* date and time corrected after the meeting. Original date was January 19, 2002, time was not set.