

# **THE WHISTLE POST**

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Northeastern Region, NMRA*

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<http://www.trainweb.org/nergds/index.htm>

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Tom Wortmann President

Norman Frowley Vice President

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## ***THE GARDEN STATE COMET CONVENTION REPORT***

The hard work on the part of the convention committee and volunteers paid off. Despite the rain on the first day and the few glitches that occur at any convention, over 150 NMRA members all had a great time. Over 20 non-repetitive clinics were given and more than 30 home and club layouts were open. Operating modular layouts were on display in the hotel lobby helping to promote the hobby among hundreds of people who were at the hotel for other events. We also ran a live auction of over 100 items, many which saw some very lively bidding. All banquet attendees received free magazines from Carstens Publishing and chances to win a door prize.

I'd like to thank all the members of the convention committee and all the volunteers who helped make this convention a rousing success. I'd also like to thank all the local hobby shops, manufacturers, and distributors for their generous donations that added to the success story. I'd also like to thank all those who opened their layouts for attendee visits as well as all the local prototype facilities. A well deserved thank you to the Parsippany Hilton Hotel and all their staff for all the great attention they gave the convention and the professionalism of their staff. Last, but not least, a thank you to all to all of you who attended, adding to the success story.

Bob T

### ***Garden State Division Welcomes New Members***

Martin J. Boyle of Hackettstown, NJ

Gerald and Patricia Kimble of Monroe Township, NJ

## ***GARDEN STATE DIVISION SHINES AT PARSIPPANY***

The Garden State Division was at its best at the NER convention in Parsippany where division members entered the region's model contest and won awards for their excellent creations.

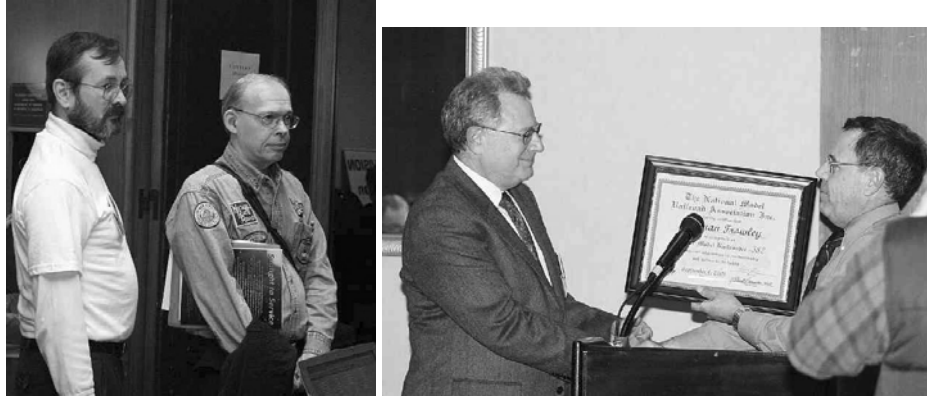


Andy Rubbo's award winning PRR interlocking diorama (left ) and a portion of his home layout (right.)

Division Secretary Ciro Compagno's Engine House won a Second Place award in structures. Chuck Diljak's Fan House took First Place in structures, scoring 99 points. Andy Rubbo won a Second Place award for his diorama of a PRR Interlocking. A special award went to Andy Rubbo as the runner up for the best new modeler of the year. The distinction of best new modeler went to Chuck Diljak who also won another special award (along with some cash) for his modeling efforts. And your AP Chair and Vice President Norman Frowley won First Place in dioramas for his rendition of the Martin Machine Company, which scored a 95 in the competition. Besides regional judges, our Tom Casey and Norman Frowley were also on the judging staff.



Martin Machine Company (left) and Ciro Compagno's Engine House (right)



(Left) Contest Judges Tom Casey (division director) and Steve Perry (President, Sunrise Trail Division), GSD VP Norm Frowley receiving his Master Model railroader certificate from Paul Allard, the Regional AP Chairman (right)

In addition to being successful in the Model Contest, the Division was further honored when its AP Chair and VP received his seventh Achievement Certificate, this one for Association Volunteer, and was awarded the title of Master Model Railroader (Number 382). Norman is one of only 25 Master Model Railroaders in the storied history of the NER, and the only MMR in our Division's most recent past. Based on our Division's successes this fall, Parsippany may be the start of something big for the Garden State Division's model builders and its Achievement Program.

### ***Garden State Comet Photographs by Karen Parker***



Karen Parker gave a clinic on how a steam engine works. (Left) Two icons, Hal Carstens and Tony Koester (right) checking things out



Our Pre-Auction display setup

Ed Fraedrich and Bob Tumielewicz manning the GSD table




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A number of excellent layouts were set up at the hotel.

### **From the President**

The GSD is now looking forward to other events and other ways to bring the hobby to you, our local NMRA member. Area clubs have long supported us and we are looking to have some member's home layouts open after our meets so we can continue the day operating or just watching trains. If you think you may want to do that, please let us know by emailing us at [gsdtrains@yahoo.com](mailto:gsdtrains@yahoo.com) or call me at (718)494-0388. You can host for 1 hour or as long as you like. Right now we are in talks with the Sunrise Trail Division to host a dual spring meet since there will be no Spring regional convention next year. Sort of a you go see their home layouts and they come see ours.

We are also looking for something to do during the summer months. Not only do we need an event but we need a place to hold it. Modeling with the masters, (now that we have our first MMR since coming back to life), a rolling meet to some location to see trains or something else. Again, any ideas you have, let us know. New ideas are always welcome.

Please let us know, be active or lend a hand. No one is ever turned down.

Tom Wortmann

### ***Upcoming Events:***

#### **Ramapo Valley Model RR Club in Ho-Ho-Kus, Holiday Open House**

2pm to 4 pm, Dec 2 & 3, 9 & 10, 16 & 17. Requested Admission: \$4 per Adult, and \$1 per child accompanied by an adult (\$10 maximum for a family)

<http://members.aol.com/RVRRclub/>

The Ramapo Valley Railroad Club is in the VFW Hall at 620 Cliff Street (at the intersection of Cliff St. and Brookside Ave) which is at the east end of the parking lot for NJ Transit's Ho-Ho-Kus Train Station.

#### **The New York Society of Model Engineers Holiday Open House**

DEC 1,2,3. FRI. 7 - 10 PM, SAT. and SUN. 1 - 6 PM ADMISSION: Adults \$5.00 - Children (5-11) \$1.00

341 Hoboken Road, Carlstadt NJ 07072

3 Blocks west of Route 17 South 201-939-9212

[www.ModelEngineers.org](http://www.ModelEngineers.org)

#### **Great Train Expo at the Garden State Exhibit Center**

January 6 and 7, 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM both Saturday and Sunday, Admission: Adults: \$7.00 -- Kids 12 and Under: FREE!

50 Atrium Drive, Somerset, NJ 08873, 732-469-4000

#### **Montclair & Greenwood Lake History Lecture: Cross Purposes, Mixed Motives, and the Occasional Fistfight**

January 11, 2007 at 7:30 PM at the Pequannock Public Library, 77 Newark Pompton Turnpike, Pompton Plains, NJ 07444, Telephone (973) 835-7460

<http://www.pequannocklibrary.org/>

#### **Garden State Division Winter Meeting and Operating Session**

January 21, 2007 (snow date Feb 11, 2007) at 12:00 PM at

Ramapo Valley Model RR Club in Ho-Ho-Kus, NJ

After the meeting the club will host an operating session for Garden State Division members. Please contact Division President Tom Wortmann at [gsdtrains@yahoo.com](mailto:gsdtrains@yahoo.com) if you are interested in participating. Please include a detailed subject line on the e-mail.

### ***National NMRA Membership Contest***

Every month from November through the end of January, the NMRA will be randomly drawing the names of three new members. Each member win a new locomotive. In addition, if that new member has included the name of an existing NMRA member on his/her membership application, that NMRA member also wins a new locomotive.

Look for our ads in the November, December, and January issues of Scale Rails. And remember, the contest is limited to U.S. residents only, and doesn't include RailPass memberships. (See next page for this ad).

Gerry Leone, MMR

Deputy Chair, NMRA Membership Services & Promotion Dept

# Bring in a friend. Bring home a locomotive.

## Sign me up as an NMRA member and enter me in the drawing!

\_\_\_\_ Regular NMRA member: \$36/year, all rights and benefits but no *Scale Rails*

\_\_\_\_ Regular NMRA member: \$48/year, all rights and benefits including *Scale Rails*

Other membership package options are available. Visit [www.nmra.org](http://www.nmra.org) for details.

**Mail to:**  
**NMRA Membership Contest**  
**4121 Cromwell Rd.**  
**Chattanooga, TN 37421**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Name of referring NMRA member (print) \_\_\_\_\_

Referring member's NMRA# & expiration \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Check here to receive your Region's newsletter. Just \$6 for the first year!

Payments must be made in U.S. FUNDS ONLY. Make checks payable to NMRA. We also accept MasterCard, Visa, American Express and Discover.

Credit card

Security code on back of card

Expiration       Cardholder signature \_\_\_\_\_  
Month Year

From November 1 through January 31, when you get someone to sign up for a new NMRA membership you'll both come out winners! Each month we'll draw names of three new members. Those new members and the NMRA members who referred them will each win their own Atlas®, Kato®, Bachmann® or Life-Like® loco.

And even if your friend doesn't bag a prize, as a new NMRA member they'll still come out a winner because they'll have all the benefits of the greatest model railroad organization in the world.

So pass along this sign-up form along to a non-member today! Then start polishing those rails.

**OFFICIAL RULES:** Contest open to U.S. residents only who are either National Model Railroad Association, Inc. (NMRA) members in good standing on November 1, or individuals who haven't been NMRA members for 2 years or more. Properly completed Membership/Entry forms must be received by 1/31/07 to be eligible. Names will be entered in drawing only after new membership has been fully processed. Renewals for existing memberships will not be credited as new memberships. NMRA officers and directors, paid or contracted NMRA employees and their immediate families are not eligible, nor are contest sponsors and business firms contracted by either the NMRA or those sponsors, their employees and their immediate families. Odds of winning random drawings are dependent on the number of eligible entries received. Contest void where prohibited by law. No substitution of prizes. Winners must execute an affidavit of eligibility and release, and agree that their names and/or likenesses may be used for advertising/publicity purposes by the NMRA without further compensation, except where prohibited. By participating, entrants agree to these rules and that the decision of the NMRA President in all matters relating to the contest shall be final. Winners names may be obtained by sending a self-addressed stamped envelope to: NMRA, 4121 Cromwell Rd., Chattanooga, TN 37421.



**The Whistle Post, Newsletter of the Garden State Division NMRA**  
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