VOLUME 41, NUMBER 04

JULY 2023

RED MARKERS

NEWSLETTER OF THE CENTRAL NEW YORK DIVISION OF THE NORTHEASTERN REGION,
NATIONAL MODEL RAILROAD ASSOCIATION, INC.
SERVING MODEL RAILROADERS IN AND AROUND CENTRAL NEW YORK STATE

NEXT MEETING . . .

SATURDAY JULY 15, 2023 – 12:00 – 4:00 PM

RAIN OR SHINE!

DIVISION PICNIC

AT FINGER LAKES LIVE STEAMERS
302 CLYDE-MARENGO ROAD, CLYDE , NEW YORK 14433

AT THIS MEETING AND IN THIS ISSUE . . .

YOU SHOULD BRING: Your own seating (there are picnic tables) and non-alcoholic beverages **AND**
A DISH TO PASS: Based on your last name you should bring the following:
A-F – Salad (Pasta, Potato, Garden, etc.) **G-M** – Side Dish (Beans, Casserole, etc.)
N-T – Snacks (Chips, crackers, dip, etc.) **U-Z**- Desserts

The Division will provide Hot Dogs, Hamburgers, water, utensils, plates, rolls & buns, condiments etc. A side note: if someone would like to bring a cooler full of ice (always nice to have on hand.)
There is now a covered pavilion for seating.

Model Railroads: There are three main layouts on the FLLS grounds; 1/8 scale live steam line, a 1/12 scale line and a 1/32 scale railroad (No. 1 gauge).

Division Meeting: No business is conducted at the picnic. Just come and enjoy.

The "Brass Hats"
CENTRAL NEW YORK DIVISION
- ELECTED -
Superintendent
Drew James
4262 Lynville Way
Clay, NY 13041
(315) 430-3440
domerdrew@gmail.com
Asst. Superintendent
Rick Mniece
6291 Wooderton Path
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rmniece@gmail.com
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Camillus, NY 13031
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tommyl@me.com
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Charlie Albee
215 Falls Blvd
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(315) 687-3282
m.c.albee1948@gmail.com

- APPOINTED -
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Division Storekeeper
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"Loose Spikes" . . .

(Notes from the "Ashpit")

Don't Get Left at the Station . . .

While we will email Red Markers to anyone who wants to receive it, you must be an NMRA member in good standing (from any division) to attend our meetings and activities. Guests and visitors are also welcome to attend a meeting or two to help them decide if they would like to join the NMRA.

PAYMASTER'S REPORT

26 Apr 2023 – 26 Jun 2023
Balance, 26 Apr 2023 $5,462.52
Income
3 May 2023 – Name badge - $15.99
22 May 2023 – Raffle, 5-21-2023 - $105.00
5 Jun 2023 – Donation – $100.00
Total Income $220.99
Expenses
26 Apr 2023 – 501(c)3 application, ops food - $389.98
29 Apr 2023 – Ops food - $154.97
2 May 2023 – Name badge - $15.66
6 May 2023 – Red Markers - $14.67
12 May 2023 – Name badges - $62.64
2 Jun 2023 – Ops food - $70.13
Total Expenses $708.05
Balance, 25 Apr 2023 4,975.46
Savings Account Opening balance - $25.02
Interest -$0.02
Current balance - $25.04

Summary of Accounts: Checking $4,975.46
Savings $25.04
Total of Accounts $5,000.50

Respectfully submitted,
Charles Albee
Paymaster

Division Name Badges are available at no charge for the initial badge. **Badges are only available to CNY Division Members**. Replacement badges are $15.00. Contact **Andy Slaugh aslaugh1@verizon.net**

REMEMBER - Contact Chief Clerk Tom Lynch if you ever have trouble receiving your "Red Markers." Also, if you need to change your e-mail address or post office address drop the Clerk a line. The Division Chief Clerk's contact information is listed in "The Brass Hats" sidebar to the left.

Please have your articles and any items for "Loose Spikes" to us by the date listed below. Remember, EARLIER IS ALWAYS BETTER! Thanks for your support,

Ed & Ed.

Red Markers Publication Deadline
8/1, 10/30

(Loose Spikes continued on page 4)

FROM THE FREIGHT SHED

DREW JAMES, SUPERINTENDENT

In the past months there have been several on-line efforts and events I would like to bring to your attention:

Our website – Thanks to Ken Cameron we have a new website (cnynmra.org). Our old website was out of date and hosted on a tool which was going obsolete. You can now go to our site if you have a question about upcoming division events, to read the latest issue of Red Markers, or to see our governing documents. There are pictures of division layouts and links to videos related to our division. We plan to add more content over time.

YouTube Channel – Ed Olszewski has set up a division YouTube channel www.youtube.com/@cnydivisionnmra8667. There you will find a collection of videos that have been made for the division (mostly by Ed) Many were shown over the past few years as part of the on-line NERx conventions. Like our website, we hope to add more videos over time.

Facebook – The division has an active Facebook page (easy to find if you search for "CNY Division NMRA"). We would love to have more followers and more members posting about their layouts, railfan outings, train travel, etc. You do not have to have an account on Facebook to view the page, but you do need to set up an account if you want to post or comment on it.

Podcasts – Ray Arnott attended our April "Ops 'til You Drop" event. Ray hosts the podcast "Around the Layout" www.aroundthelayout.com/podcasts where he interviews modelers about their journey in the hobby. As a result of his visit, Bill Brown and I both had the pleasure of being guests on his show. The episodes will be released in July.

NMRA Interchange – The NMRA Interchange is an on-line "meet up" site where you can find other modelers with your interests. There are groups for just about every prototype and interest. It is great place to ask questions about modeling. Our division has a group on Interchange. Unfortunately, there are only a couple of our division members who are currently on Interchange and we encourage more of you to join us. To participate you start by going to the national NMRA website where there are directions to walk you through the process of getting started.

Email - I have mentioned in the past that we now use gmail for our division email. We have worked through a few issues with individuals over the past months. As clarification, as long as you are alive, we will not intentionally stop emailing Red Markers to you unless you ask us to stop – even if your membership lapses (however we will stop mailing you a hardcopy if you are one of the few who still receives it through the mail). Please let us know if you (or a friend) stop receiving it as we do make mistakes or the electrons do strange things at times. We do try hard not to bombard you with too much email.

I'm sorry to report that we received bad news on our 501c3 application from the IRS. We submitted our application at the end of April. We subsequently received a small number of written questions which were answered. I subsequently received a call from our IRS case manager in which he informed me that our application was going to be denied and gave me a couple of options going forward. Faced with several bad options, I consulted with the executive board and then I withdrew our application. This was very disappointing. We are going to regroup and educate ourselves on how to better write our application and then resubmit in the future.

I am looking forward to a fun day at Finger Lakes Live Steamers for our picnic! Keep your fingers crossed for nice weather.

Drew

Loose Spikes, *(Cont. from pg. 2)*

Future Conventions:

2023 National Convention – Dallas/Ft. Worth Texas

August 21 – 26, 2023

https://
www.2023texasexpress.com

Like us on FaceBook!

Post layout photos, ask questions, or seek information about the hobby and events. There is an **NMRA** page, a **Northeastern Region, NMRA** page, and **The Central NY Division of the NMRA** page. See what is happening all over the world in model railroading.

Follow us on Twitter!

@cnynmra

Check out the division YouTube Channel to view videos of Division layouts.

Division Picnic Pavilion Finger Lakes Live Steamers

The O&N Crew at the Great NYS Train Fair in November

L – R: Dave Babson, Carl Paulson, Ed O'Rourke, Bob Verkuyl, Rick Mniece, Charlie Albee and Angel Bernard. Jim Heidt in front. This was the last event Jim was able to participate in, a bittersweet event, as it involved selling off a lot of Jim's vast collection of models. Along with others, this group kept the O&N running when Jim could no-longer get to the basement. See Jim's obituary on page 5.

(Photo by Roger Beiswenger)

Last Run – Jim Heidt

James K. Heidt, 70, passed peacefully at home on June 12, 2023. Born April 17, 1953, in Suffern, NY, as Kevin Bristow, he was adopted by Herbert and Dorothy Heidt into a fully nurturing and dynamic family. As a child, Jim was immersed into the intimate family culture of railroaders: riding with his dad throughout NYS to inventory the lost NYO&W, watching his grandfather working on a weekend steam excursion train, and, during high school, became the 4th generation by working on the O&N, the Ogdensburg and Norwood Railway, the family business and 25 - mile shortline railroad.

Jim went to college at Buffalo State, where he cofounded the rugby team, then law school at Ohio Northern University. He was admitted to the NY bar in 1983, and practiced in NYS his entire 40-year career. Later in public or private service, he specialized in family court practice, calling it his real life ministry in helping others. In 1991, he was the first, among others in the Fourth Department, to receive the Hon. Michael F. Dillon Law Guardian Award for service to children before the courts.

Received into the Episcopal Church in 1990, Jim eventually discerned a call to the priesthood, being ordained at St. John's in Oneida. "Father Jim" served at St. John's, at Trinity in Canastota, and Zion in Rome, loving them all.

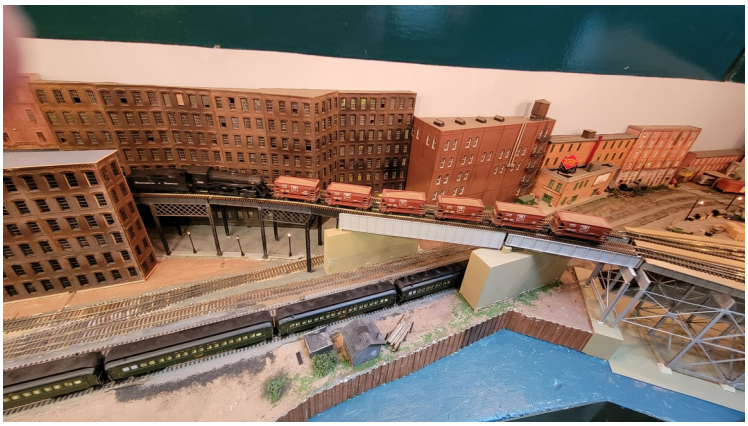
His love for trains was lifelong. He authored the book, "Abandoned Railroads of Oneida County". Passionate for the artistic hobby of scale model railroading, Jim served as trustee for the global National Model Railroad Association, and president of its Northeastern Region. But he is proudest as the founder of its Central NY Division, and of all the friends he has been blessed with, his train friends are the closest. Finally, his beloved O&N of his youth continued in his full basement train layout, publicized in the international hobby press and visited many times on tour. The layout continues with the love of its crew of best friends.

Jim was predeceased by his parents, prior wife Suzanne, and beloved last cat, Potter. He is survived by his wife, Meribeth Seaman, and his children, Kevin (Melissa) and Rebecca (Kristen), and grandchildren Olivia and Rory, all of Pottstown, PA., sister Carol DiSimone of Texas, and beloved cousin Ruth Portella of New Jersey. A celebration Mass was held June 24 at 11 AM at Zion Episcopal Church, 140 W. Liberty Street, Rome, with reception party to follow. Memorials in lieu of flowers may be made to Zion Episcopal Church in Rome, supporting its various ministries to the community. The family would like to thank the caring staff of Hospice and Palliative Care, Inc. Arrangements are by Homer Ball Funeral Home.

Left: Jim and Meribeth at the 2022 picnic. Right: A somewhat younger version of Jim, installing roadbed on Roger's layout. *(Photos: left - Ed O'Rourke, right – Roger Beiswenger)*

Modeling around the Division

As most of us know, Martin Collard is an excellent modeler and takes particular care in vehicle modeling. He sez "I wasn't pleased with my federal siren on my truck. I came across some Tichy small gas tanks I had. Really acetylene bottles. Cut off the valve cover and shortened it. Drill out the end for the red MV Lens and drill a hole for the mount rod. I'm much happier with this version.The uneven paint actually works out. Looks like the fins and grill of a federal siren, or at least that's my story and I'm stickin' to it." Martin took the photo.



A recent Op Session on Drew's CS&P. Looks like things are pretty busy in Castlegar and Nelson Yard.

Ed and his Grandson work the Nelson Industrial job. *(Two photos above by Roger Beiswenger)*

Through the work of the O&N Operating crew (mostly Charlie and Bob V.), steam has returned to the O&N and the ore dock is now in service. *(Two photos at left by Angel Bernard.)*

CNY Division Tool Loan Program

By Ed Olszewski, Division Storekeeper and Member Aid Chair

Over the years, the division has invested in a selection of tools to help you build your dream model railroad. Rather than purchasing a pricey tool that you will only need for a short period of time as you build your layout you can borrow the tool from the Division.

How does the loan program work? First, you must be a current NMRA member and a member of the Central NY Division. You send the Division Storekeeper an e-mail to cnynmra@gmail.com with the words "Tool Loan" in the subject line. Tell the Storekeeper what tool(s) you would like to borrow. You will be told if the tools you need are available or, if another member is currently using them, when they will be available. Tools are usually loaned out for a month, sometimes two depending on your project. Understand that the division will provide the tool, but you supply the consumables like glue, static grass, solder, ties, rail, etc.

The next step is to work out the details of the hand-off with the Storekeeper. This can be done at a division meeting or, if your need is more immediate, you and the Storekeeper will work out a way to meet. Once you have a tool, you typically can keep it for one month. If you need it longer than that, drop a line to the Storekeeper at cnynmra@gmail.com and ask for an extension. If another division member hasn't requested the use of the tool you have, you're good for another month. However, if another member has requested the tool, you will be asked to return it so the next person can use it. The Storekeeper will work with everyone to best meet their needs for the tool so everyone can make progress on their layout.

The list of tools available for loan is on the CNY Division website in the "Tool Room" tab:
https://cnynmra.org/tool-room/
Here is a 30,000-foot summary of what we have; Fast Track HO and HOn3 turnout and crossover jigs, track spacing gauges, rock molds, HO camera car, a static grass applicator, and a speedometer useful for speed matching your DCC locomotives.

If the tool you need is not in our collection let the Storekeeper know. If the Division Board of Directors believes enough members would have a need for the tool, we will consider purchasing it. All reasonable tool requests will be considered. Also, if you have a tool you will no longer be using and would like to donate, let the Storekeeper know – the Division may want to add it to the Tool Inventory.

This is one way the Division gives back to you, its members, in a useful way. We are all here to enjoy the hobby of model railroading. The Division doesn't want to let the lack of a tool get in your way of enjoying the hobby in the way you want to enjoy it.

Marty Denali provided some vintage photos of Utica

Left: Chenango canal Lock 8 – O&W water tower and roundhouse in the background beyond the bridge.

Below: Utica - 1915

NMRA's Partnership Program

Partnership Program

The NMRA Partnership Program is a member benefit that truly has a tangible payback. We've partnered with model railroad manufacturers of all sizes, giving them exposure on our website in return for receiving generous discounts for NMRA members all year long. Some provide members with special codes, others prefer a phone or email order, but all appreciate the additional business from our members. And of course, our members appreciate the extra savings...savings that can actually pay the cost of NMRA membership! **Be sure to check back often as new Partners are being added all the time.**

Area Model Railroad Groups:

The Central New York Model Railroad Club and Historical Society:
4986 Jordan Rd. Elbridge NY 13060. Sun; 1:00 PM or by appt. New members and visitors are always welcome, $5 donation is suggested over 18. Starting scenery on the new layout. cnymrrc22@gmail.com www.facebook.com/Central New York Model Railroad Club & Historical Society

The Syracuse Model Railroad Club:
The Club has been forced to dismantle its layout and move out of the Eastwood Post building.
Info: info@syracusemodelrr.org

Salt City N-Trak, Ltd.:
Meeting schedule / location TBA. N-TRAK modular layout which often tours. Info: www.facebook.com/saltcityntrak or email SaltCityNTRAK@gmail.com

FUNTRAK:
The Frankfort United N-Trak Model Railroad Club, Inc. meets at members homes, meetings are scheduled and posted in FUNTRAK's newsletter each month about two months ahead of the actual meeting date. Info: **Brian King** at 315-292-7066.
http://funtrak.net

Cayuga Valley Model Railroaders:
Wed. 7:00PM at the club at 3 East Genesee Street, Auburn, over Speno Music Store. Info: Call Tom Way 585-369-8403.
www.facebook.com/cayugavalleymodelrailroader
www.cayugavalley.weeby.com tmaway@frontier.net

Oswego Valley Railroad Association:
The group sponsors several train shows in Oswego County. Contact Charles Hewitt thepartstruck@gmail.com On FaceBook @ Oswego Valley Railroad Assoc.

Central New York Modelers:
CNYMOD Info: at www.cnymod.com or by contacting President **Andy Rezsnyak** at 440-4511 or e-mail cny187@gmail.com.

Central New York Large-Scale Railway Society:
Meets at Driver's Village, where they have an extensive layout. http://cnylsrs.net. Info: **John McCumber** at jmccumbe@twcny.rr.com.

The Bullthistle Model Railroad Society:
Third Wed. of the month, 7:00PM at their headquarters at 33 Rexford Street, Norwich, NY, and open Saturdays from 1:00 to 4:00PM and on special events... all in creating visual and operable multi-scale displays of historic railroading in Chenango County. Info: Club President, **Philip Fairchild**
at (607) 847-8551, lpfair@frontiernet.net

CNYNRHS Model Railroad Group
This group maintains a O Gauge high-rail scale modular layout in wareroom behind JR Junction Train & Hobby, 2716 Erie Blvd. E., Syracuse New York 13224. Currently meeting 7:00-9:00pm most Thursday evenings. It is recommended to call ahead at 315-451-6551. More information: www.cnynrhs.org or E-Mail modelrr@cnynrhs.org

European Train Enthusiasts, CNY Chapter
Round robin meetings. 'N' scale modular layout, Info: **Tom Lynch** at 315-762-2777, tommy1@me.com or @UpstateNYETE on FaceBook

2023 CNY Division Schedule

Meetings 2-4 PM unless otherwise noted!

Saturday Jan.21
12:00 – 4:00PM
Banquet – Theodore's, Canastota

February 26
Annual meeting
Bob Davidson, Liverpool

March 24 - 25
Ops Around the Clock
Lakeshores Division

Saturday/Sunday
April 22-23
Ops 'til You Drop

May 21
Mark Withiam, Marcellus

Saturday July 15
12 - 4 PM
Division Picnic
Finger Lakes Live Steamers
Details in this issue

August 20
3:00 – 5:00PM
Train Watching – Tractor Supply

Saturday Sept. 16
Division Layout Tours

October 5 – 8
NER Convention
Uniondale, Long Island, NY

November 4 – 5
Great NYS Train Fair

November 19
TBA

Finger Lakes Live Steamers

302 Clyde-Marengo Road
Clyde, New York 14433

Directions:
From Thruway Exit 41, turn right at the end of the ramp onto T. 414. Proceed to the stop light (Rt. 318) and turn RIGHT.
Turn RIGHT onto Whiskey Hill Road. Finger Lakes Live Steamers property will be on the right approximately 5 miles after the turn onto Whiskey Hill Road (Becomes Clyde-Marengo road at the Seneca County line)

As always, don't take our word for it. Verify these directions for yourself with GPS.

Don't forget to bring seating!

Central New York Division, NMRA
Red Markers News Letter
5193 Pointe East Drive
Jamesville, New York 13078