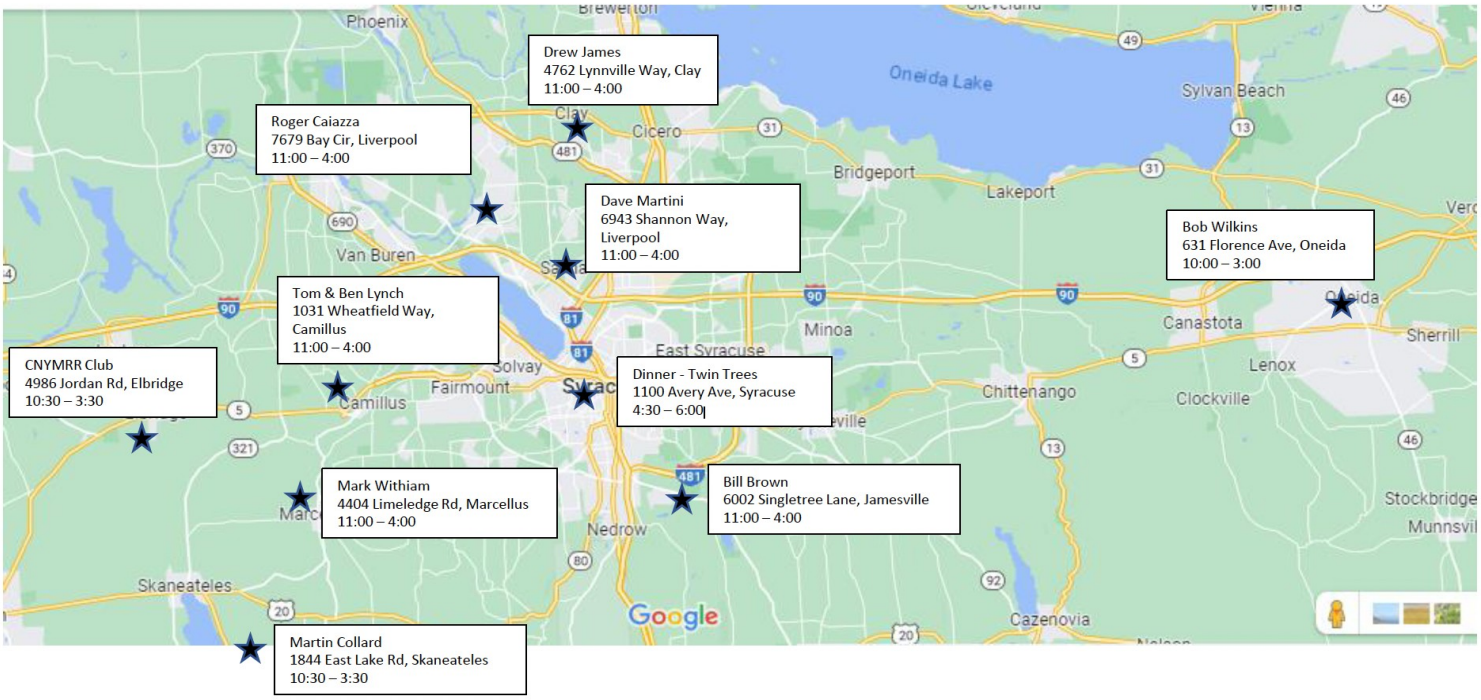
VOLUME 41, NUMBER 05 SEPTEMBER 2023

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 . . .

CENTRAL NEW YORK LAYOUT TOUR
SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 16, 2023



AT THIS MEETING AND IN THIS ISSUE . . .

Group dinner from 4:30 to 6:00. Twin Trees Restaurant – 1100 Avery Ave, Syracuse.
Make sure you use this address – there are multiple Twin Trees in the Syracuse area!
$15 CASH payable at dinner – Includes pizza, salad, soft drinks.
RSVP to cnynmra@gmail.com **no later than 9/8.**

Tour is open to NMRA members and their guests.

You may visit the layouts in any sequence.

Layouts open times as noted. Please do not overstay to allow hosts to make it to the dinner.

Please read details on layout for parking and entrance information.

Most layouts require guests to climb stairs. Please do not put hosts at risk if you are not able to comfortably go up and down stairs.

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
Cicero, NY 13039
(315) 699-6668
rmniece@gmail.com
Chief Clerk
Tom Lynch
1031 Wheatfield Way
Camillus, NY 13031
(315) 762-2777
tommyl@me.com
Paymaster
Charlie Albee
215 Falls Blvd
Chittenango, NY 13037
(315) 687-3282
m.c.albee1948@gmail.com

- APPOINTED -
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Dave Martini
6943 Shannon Way
Liverpool, NY 13088
(315) 457-7437
martinikelly1966@gmail.com
NMRA Member Aid Chairman
Division Storekeeper
Ed Olszewski
(315) 488-4193
eolszew1@gmail.com
Division Clinic Coordinator
Bill Brown, MMR
6002 Singletree Lane
Jamesville, NY 13078
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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

Paymaster's Report – 26 Jun 2023 - 3 Aug 2023

Balance, 26 Jun 2023		**$4,975.46**
Expenses		
5 Jul 2023-Red Markers expense -	$14.67	
17 Jul 2023-Picnic Supplies -	$272.49	
24 Jul 2023-Donation to picnic host -	$100.00	
Total Expenses	$387.16	
Balance, 3 Aug 2023		**$ 4,588.30**

Savings Account	
Opening balance -	$25.04
Interest -	$0.01
Current balance -	$25.05

Summary of Accounts:		
Checking	$4,588.30	
Savings	$25.05	
Total of Accounts		**$4,613.35**

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
10/30

(Loose Spikes continued on page 4)

FROM THE FREIGHT SHED

DREW JAMES, SUPERINTENDENT

I'm very excited about the division's upcoming 2023 layout tour! I hope you will take advantage of this opportunity to see a few of the many beautiful layouts we are lucky to have in the Central New York area. Some of these layouts are well known and you have probably seen them before, but have made improvements since your last visit and are always worth seeing again. Others are hidden gems or new layouts being opened for the first time.

A dinner will be held after the tour. This is a great chance to meet other NMRA members from neighboring divisions and discuss the day. There is a limit of 50 people due to the size of the facility so be sure to RSVP and reserve your spot.

The layout owners are being gracious to open their homes to us, so please be respectful and follow a few common-sense guidelines so we are invited back in the future:

Do not touch anything (i.e. throw switches, push a button, etc) without first asking. I hate to say it, but a layout we visited in the past was damaged from someone "trying out" controls on the fascia without first asking if they could or understanding how they worked.

Don't put our layout owners at risk. Almost all the layouts require visitors to navigate stairs. The last thing we need is for someone to get hurt because they take a fall. Please be careful, pay attention to where you are walking, and make the safe decision to skip this event if you cannot go up and down stairs easily.

Our layout hosts all love to talk with guests and answer questions. Do not monopolize the host and give other visitors a chance to ask questions as well. Please do not stay past the closing time in order to give the owners a chance to get to the dinner.

Due to space issues, some layouts may limit the number of guests in the train room at a time. Please look for and follow any directions. If there are people waiting, please do not overstay your visit.

A big thank you to our hosts who have put in a lot of work getting ready for this tour!

Drew

Canada Spokane & Pacific – Drew James

The CS&P is a freelanced bridge line jointly owned by Burlington Northern and Canadian Pacific set in the early 1980s. A long mountainous single track mainline connects five modeled towns with Spokane, Washington and Calgary, Alberta on this point-to-point railroad. This layout was designed for operations and features wide aisles and a comfortable lounge for off duty crews. The layout features a replica US&S CTC machine and is fully signaled.

Scale: HO Size: 1,500 sq feet
Scenery: 100% Era: June, 1981
Address: 4762 Lynnville Way, Clay Open: 11:00am – 4:00pm
Parking on street. Enter through front door and go down stairs to basement

(Continued, Page 4)

LOOSE SPIKES, *(Cont. from pg. 2)*

FUTURE CONVENTIONS:

2024 National Convention –
Long Beach, CA

August 4 – 11, 2024

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.

LAYOUT TOURS, *continued*

Leadville & Red Cliff / D&RGW Narrow Gauge – Bill Brown

Two spectacular layouts in one basement! The LARC was featured in the June 2018 issue of Model Railroader. The modern lower-level layout depicts the Rio Grande Tennessee Pass line through central Colorado as it would appear today if it had not closed in the 1990s. The upper-level narrow gauge layout features several intertwined aspects of Colorado Narrow Gauge. This expansive layout features 6-foot-high mountains, deep valleys, over 300 structures, 400 pieces of rolling stock, 80 sound equipped engines, and stunning scenery. One special attraction is the computer day/night sequence in which the lights dim, the sun sets behind the mountains, and hundreds of building lights go on and off individually during the night. You do not want to miss a chance to visit this nationally renowned layout!
Scale: HO / HOn3 Size: 2,400 sq ft
Scenery: 100% Era: Lower-level standard gauge – Modern;
Upper-level Narrow Gauge – 1910- 1949
Address: 6002 Singletree Lane, Jamesville Open: 11:00am-4:00pm
Parking on street. Enter around the back of the house through the basement sliding doors.

The Borodino & Southern RR – Martin Collard

The B&S was started in 1997 as a HOn3 narrow gauge fictitious version of the proposed extension (which was never built) of the Marcellus & Otisco Lake RR, which would have extended the M&OL to Borodino and points south to Homer NY. The B&S was re-gauged to standard HO in 2017. The B&S lies between Otisco and Skaneateles Lakes and serves 31 businesses along the way. Crushed limestone is an important commodity hauled by the railroad. Many of the structures and rolling stock are salvaged from "fallen flag" model railroads. There are a few craftsman kits and many scratch-built structures and some buildings built by Martin's friends. This is an incredible "museum quality" layout rich in detail with beautiful scenery!
Scale: HO Size: 13'x20'
Scenery: 99% Era: Early 1950s
Address: 1844 East Lake Road, Skaneateles Open: 10:30am – 3:30pm
Parking in the driveway preferred (drive through capability). On one side of road if necessary (DO NOT park on both sides). Layout is on second floor of garage behind house. Access is limited to 5 people max at a time.

(Continued Page 5)

LAYOUT TOURS, *continued*

Mohawk Valley Central - Bob Wilkins
The "MVC" is a fictional railroad sharing some track with the New York Central in 1952. The older section is of the freelanced railroad serving Plattsburgh, Schenectady, and the Adirondacks. The newer section is shared track with the New York Central and runs between Poughkeepsie and Oneida, New York. The newer section has most of track installed in two levels connected by a helix hidden within the scenery. The top level will feature downtown Oneida. There is a wide range of motive power including even camelbacks, shays, and boxcabs. This is a beautiful layout which will take you back to post-war Upstate New York!
Scale: HO Size: 550 sq ft filling two rooms
Scenery 80% Era: Transitional
Address: 631 Florence Avenue, Oneida Open: 10:00am – 3:00pm
Parking in Cul-de -ac and on street. Enter through front door.

Cayuga-Owasco Branch Lehigh Valley RR – Mark Withiam
The double-deck COB is a prototypical, freelanced switching layout based on the three LV branches between Cayuga and Owasco Lakes. The layout features several switching areas, a full-service yard at Auburn and a staging yard. It is built with operations in mind. Freight trains haul goods through Groton, Locke, Moravia and Owasco Lake Station. Mixed trains haul coal, aggregates, and food items through Myer's Point (East side of Cayuga Lake). There are interchanges with NYC and DL&W. A robust helix connects the two levels of the layout. The layout is inspired by Mark's grandparents' combined 70 years of service with the LVRR. This is a chance to see an interesting design with very high quality benchwork, trackwork, and wiring techniques before being covered with scenery.
Scale: HO Size: 11'x26'
Scenery: Just Starting Era: 1950's-1960's
Address: 4404 Limeledge Road, Marcellus Open: 11:00am-4:00pm
Parking in driveway or on street. Enter through the garage, up three steps, door on right in kitchen to the basement.

BD Kaiserslautern - Tom & Ben (15) Lynch
BD Kaiserslautern is an N scale version of the Alzentalbahn (KBS 650) and Pfälzische Ludwigsbahn (KBS 670), part of the Deutsche Bundesbahn (DB) in 1974 West Germany. KBS650 is a single tracked and non-electrified line from Kaiserslautern (staging) heading north through two small towns and on to Bingen on the Rhine River. Service includes passenger and freight using rail busses, diesel, and steam. The layout models two towns between staging. KBS670 is a busy double tracked line from Kaiserslautern (staging) to Mannheim (staging) with several towns and a junction to KBS650. It is still under construction and will have overhead catenary. Train Controller software allows for prototypical signaling and mixed automatic and manual running of trains. More information at https://www.facebook.com/BDKaiserslautern
Scale: N Size: 12' x 26'
Scenery: 30% Era: 1974 – end of German steam operations
Address: 1031 Wheatfield Way, Camillus Open: 11:00 am-4:00 pm
Parking on street. Enter through front door and follow signs to basement

(Continued Page 6)

LAYOUT TOURS, *continued*

The Leatherstocking Line Garden Railroad – Roger & Susan Caiazza

The Leatherstocking Line is a mature garden railroad (celebrating its 30th anniversary this year) that captures the flavor of Upstate New York branch lines around 1920. Motive power is battery and live steam. Rolling stock is uniquely painted and lettered. The layout is a perimeter-type railroad running over 200' in a relatively narrow bed along the outside of the back yard. The layout is a generic railroad featuring scratch-built structures including a flag stop from the Ulster & Delaware narrow gauge, a NYO&W milk station, an ice house, the Cobleskill Coal Company building and the Worcester NY D&H station.
Scale: Multiple (1:20.3 to 1:32) Size: 200' mainline around perimeter of yard
Scenery: Garden Railway Era: ~1920
Address: 7679 Bay Cir, Liverpool Open: 11:00 am - 4:00 pm
Parking on street. Walk around to backyard.

CSX Northeast – Dave Martini

The CSX Northeast is a prototypical, freelanced CSX/Conrail merger prior to the breakup of Conrail. The layout features a single track mainline from Cleveland OH to Buffalo NY both represented by staging. Overhead freights pass through Euclid OH, Erie PA, Fairport Harbor and Dunkirk NY. There are several industrial switching areas and a helix to a 2nd deck and the fictional S&N Railroad. The West end features the shortline Central Ohio Railroad that interchanges with CSX at Euclid OH. The railroad has an operating ABS signaling system.
Scale: HO Size: 24'x40'
Scenery: 85% Era: Modern
Address: 6943 Shannon Way, Liverpool Open: 11:00am-4:00pm
Parking on street. Enter through garage, basement is through kitchen on the right.

Central New York Model RR Club & Historical Society

The club resides in the historical New York Central Hartlott station next to the mainline of the Finger Lakes Railway. Inside the station the club is in the process of building a new layout representing railroads in Central New York. The layout is a double deck layout with a model of the Finger Lakes Railway on the lower level and CSX on the upper level. There are three yards representing Solvay and Geneva on the Finger Lakes and DeWitt on the CSX. All the trackwork is up and running and scenery is underway.
Scale: HO Size: 12'x48'
Scenery: Just starting Era: Modern
Address: 4986 Jordan Road, Elbridge Open: 10:30am – 3:30pm
Parking on grass next to station. Note that restroom facilities are not available at the club

Twin Trees Restaurant– 1100 Avery Ave, Syracuse.
Be sure you put in this address – there are multiple Twin Trees in the Syracuse area!
Group dinner from 4:30 to 6:00.
$15 CASH payable at dinner –
Includes pizza, salad, soft drinks.
RSVP to cnynmra@gmail.com no later than 9/8.

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.

More vintage photos of Utica from Marty Denali

Left: Utica - 1915

Right: Undated, but judging by the equipment it is probably 1950's.

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

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

Saturday Sept. 16
Division Layout Tours
Details in this issue

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

November 4 – 5
Great NYS Train Fair

November 19
Clay Historical Society

Modeling to the Nth degree!

The photo illustrates what happens when an unnamed Division member leaves a Kadee car in a plastic box on his car seat for 8 hours on a sunny 90+degree day. We do not recommend this as a means to expand your rip track or dead line. May be eligible for the Bill Brown Extreme Weathering Award. *(Photo by – well this person's already been shamed enough, and is out 40 bucks! He can own up to it if he wishes.)*

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