VOLUME 41, NUMBER 06

NOVEMBER 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 . . .

CLAY HISTORICAL PARK & CIGARVILLE STATION
4939 RTE. 31, CLAY, NY 13041
SUNDAY NOVEMBER 12, 2023 2:00 - 4:00PM

AT THIS MEETING AND IN THIS ISSUE . . .

The Clay Historical Park is located at 4939 Route 31 in the hamlet of Clay by the railroad tracks. It features the 1900's Cigarville rail road station, an 1840's barn and a replica of an 1800's log cabin and our Visitor's Center. Our meeting will be held in the Visitor Center. (Hopefully, will not look like the photo.)

Division Meeting: Updates to Division meeting schedule, January Banquet info, etc.

12"=1' Railroad: We will tour the station and perhaps CSX will offer a view of modern day prototype railroading.

Raffle: Bring your $$$ for the raffle. We have some good stuff to give away.

Clinic: Conner Hawes will do a "Weathering Show and Tell" – he will show us some models he has done and describe how he did them. . Photo above right is an example of his work on a Drew James loco.

The "Brass Hats"
CENTRAL NEW YORK
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- ELECTED -
Superintendent
Drew James
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tommyl@me.com
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- APPOINTED -
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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

3 Aug 2023 – 17 Oct 2023

Balance, 3 Aug 2023	$ 4,588.30
Income	
17 Aug 2023-Picnic Reimbursement-$25.00	
18 Sep 2023-Layout tour dinner, change back-$875.00	
10 Oct 2023-NER dues sharing, NMRA grant-$248.91	
Total Income	**1,148.91**
Expenses	
4 Aug 2023-Dinner deposit, library supplies-$187.41	
15 Aug 2023-Red Markers-$13.04	
14 Sep 2023-Layout Tour Dinner Change-200.00	
29 Sep 2023-501c3 application-$275.00	
30 Sep 2023-Layout Tour Dinner-622.40	
Total Expenses	**$ 1,297.85**
Balance, 17 Oct 2023	**$ 4,439.36**

Savings Account
Opening balance - $25.05
Interest -$0.03
Current balance - $25.08

Summary of Accounts: Checking $4,439.36
Savings $25.08
Total of Accounts $4,464.44

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
12/31/23

(Loose Spikes continued on page 4)

FROM THE FREIGHT SHED

DREW JAMES, SUPERINTENDENT

The Layout tour was a big success! We had almost 60 NMRA members and their guests tour many of our division's layouts. We had visitors from the Western New York, Lakeshores, Hudson-Berkshire, and even one person from the Southern Tier. Many thanks to the layout hosts who opened their homes and to Ed Olszewski for organizing the pizza dinner.

At the dinner we announced that the we are pursuing, in partnership with the Lakeshores and Western New York divisions and the NER, making a bid to host the 2029 National NMRA Convention in Rochester. The last national convention in the Northeast was at Hartford in 2008 and we believe it is past time for another one. We are in the very early stages of figuring out if Rochester meets the convention requirements in terms of the needed facilities; space, hotel rooms, etc. Conversations have been held with National and they are very supportive of holding a convention in Rochester.

As an aside, I've been asked "why not Syracuse?" The answer is that we simply do not have enough of pretty much everything. We are short on hotel rooms and facilities, we don't have enough layouts within a reasonable distance, our non-rail attractions are limited (e.g. Rochester is close enough to Niagara Falls), and frankly we don't have enough members on our own.

In the next few months, we will continue to pull together the needed data and determine if a bid is feasible. If we believe we can meet the requirements, we will submit a bid next year – likely in the summertime. Our bid would consist primarily of a presentation showing the facilities, layouts, prototype tours, non-rail activities, etc.

If you have ever attended a national convention, you know how much work it is for the hosts. We anticipate that we will need 75-100 volunteers during the convention to do everything from registration, act as bus guides, assists clinicians, etc. These volunteers will come from the three divisions as well as others in the region and nationally. A national convention typically draws around 1,500 attendees. In the near term we will be reaching out to ask individuals to help us with with the bid. This is a very exciting opportunity for our division and the region.

Drew

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO STAFF THE DIVISION TABLES AT THE GREAT NYS MODEL TRAIN FAIR, SATURDAY AND SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 4 & 5.

We like to have 4 division members staffing our tables at all times. Our Port of Oswego switching layout has drawn considerable interest and some new NMRA members over the past 6 years. We prefer to have one person out front assisting children and adults run the switching operation; one brakeman standing behind working turnouts and uncoupling cars; and two people available to answer questions about the layout, the NMRA/ CNY Division, and Model Railroading. This show is our primary opportunity to engage in conversation with people in Central New York to share the joy we find in our hobby and the NMRA.

If you would like to volunteer, please email me at rogerfbeis@gmail.com. Please include the day(s) and hours you prefer to volunteer, your email address , and mobile phone number. The show is open 10 :00 - 5:00 Saturday, November 4, and 10:00-4:00 Sunday, November 5. We will have some exhibitor passes available for volunteers who need them. You will need to call my mobile phone at 315-941-0347 when you arrive.

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

FUTURE CONVENTIONS:

NMRA NATIONAL CONVENTION

2024 Surfliner
Long Beach, CA
August 4 – 11, 2024
https://
surfliner2024.org

NER 2024 CONVENTION

Hosted by Lakeshores Division, Rochester, NY
September 19-22, 2024

NERX RETURNS!

March 18 – 21, 2024
Watch on Facebook and YouTube

OPS AROUND THE CLOCK

March 22&23, 2024
Lakeshores Division

OPS 'TIL YOU DROP

April 27&28, 2024
Central NY Division

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.

Check out the division **YOUTUBE CHANNEL** to view videos of Division layouts.

FOLLOW US ON X!@cnynmra

THE NMRA INTERCHANGE is a new place to ask questions, provide answers, post events, share ideas and make friends. It is implemented as a Discord server. Information on the NMRA members page

https://www.nmra.org/nmra-interchange

OTHER UPCOMING EVENTS

WESTERN NY LAYOUT TOURS

October 28&29, 2023
http://www.wnylayouttours.com

GREAT NYS TRAIN FAIR

November 4&5, 2023
NY State Fair Exposition Center

GREAT TRAIN EXTRAVAGANZA

December 3, 2023
Empire State Plaza, Albany, NY
https://gtealbany.com

RIT TIGER TRACKS TRAIN SHOW AND SALE

December 9&10, 2023
https://www.rit.edu/ritmrc/tigertracks

TTCS TRAIN SHOW

January 21, 2024
Utica Union Station

AMHERST RAILWAY SOCIETY RAILROAD HOBBY SHOW

January 27&28, 2024
West Springfield, MA
https://www.railroadhobbyshow.com

CNY Division Layout Tours

Photos from the Division Layout tour.
(Three upper left by Bob Wilkins, right and above by Bill Brown, left by Drew James.)

At right is a picture of the DL&W turntable at the end of Schuyler St. in Utica, probably from the 1960's. The track is now used by the NYS&W. The turntable is overgrown now but still in place.
(Photo from Marty Denale)

CNY Division Board Meeting Minutes 9/17/2023

Attendance: Drew James,Rick Mniece,George Youst,Charlie Albee,Roger Beiswenger,Bob Verkuyl,Ed O'Rourke,Ed Olszewski,Dave Martini,Mark Withiam,Bill Brown,Tom Lynch

Meeting called to order at 7:35 pm

1. Bid for National NMRA convention in 2029 in Rochester
   a. Joint effort with WNY, Lakeshores and CNY
   b. Currently in exploratory phase
      i. Ed O'Rourke and Ed Olszweksi obtained information from National and requirements, i.e. number of hotel rooms, size of convention center, etc.
      ii. Lakeshores will meet with the Rochester Convention and Visitors Bureau to see if requirements can be met.
      iii. Will further discuss with National at the Amherst Train Show in January
   c. National assumes financial risks associated with Convention
   d. Bid needs to be submitted in 2024 for a 2029 Convention
   e. Need to submit a petition of support from the region to prove the Convention can be pulled off. Signatures started yesterday at dinner for the Layout Tour.

2. Calendar
   a. Next Division Meeting 11/12 at Clay Historical Park.
      i. Train Station
      ii. Presentation on Weathering by Conner Hawes
      iii. Update Members on NMRA Convention Bid
   b. Syracuse Model Train Fair November 4 and 5
      i. Table for Division obtained
      ii. Call for Volunteers in next Red Marker
      iii. Space available for Lakeshores to promote 2024 NER Convention
   c. 2024 - see attachment
      i. Ideas needed for Clinics
         1. Request in Red Markers for folks to talk at meeting
         2. Have a "Quick Tips" clinic with 4-5 presenter giving short 10 minutes presentation
         3. Add Meeting for April?
         4. Need meeting Hosts
            a. Possibilities
               i. Lynch in May
               ii. Martini in October
               iii. Picnic at Drew's or possibly Clay Historical Park
               iv. O&W Station in Central Square or Martisco Station - Ed Oszewski will reach out to CNY NRHS
               v. Drivers Village in April on a Saturday - Drew will contact Jim Leach

3. 501(c)3 status
   a. Application was withdrawn as it appeared it would not be approved by IRS
   b. Drew, Ed Oszewski and Tom meeting on Monday (9/17) to work on re-submission based on education aspects of the division
   c. Tom will be point of contact for IRS calls and mailings

4. CNY Living History Museum has a Train day on December 9th. Discussion on whether to take the Division switching layout for display and recruitment. Same weekend as RIT Show. Ed O'Rourke and Roger will coordinate getting a crew together. Will also explore possibility of using this as a site for a future Division meeting

5. Division membership numbers - We have 8 new members this year and possibly 2 more from the layout tour. Unfortunately we have also lost 6 members.

6. Financial update from Charlie. Current balance is just over $4400.00

7. No open floor items to discuss

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 pm

Respectfully Submitted: Thomas P. Lynch Jr, Division Clerk

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.

Harold Russell Awarded NMRA Distinguished Service Award

Harold Russell, MMR#14, receives the award from NER President Ed O'Rourke, MMR#672, and Dave Durr, Lakeshores Superintendent as his wife looks on. Harold joins such Model Railroad icons as Hal Carstens, Linn Westcott, and John Allen in this award. Harold's family and the Lakeshores Division arranged the ceremony. The award was announced at the NMRA National Convention in Grapevine, TX, August 2023. *(Photo by Ned Spiller)*

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

2023-24 CNY Division Schedule

Meetings 2-4 PM unless otherwise noted!

NOVEMBER 4 – 5
Great NYS Train Fair

NOVEMBER 12
CLAY HISTORICAL PARK
DETAILS IN THIS ISSUE

SATURDAY JAN. ??
12:00 – 4:00PM
Banquet – Theodore's, Canastota

SUNDAY FEBRUARY 25
Annual Meeting – Bob Davidson
"Exhibits and More," Liverpool

SUNDAY APRIL 14
Dave Martini, Liverpool

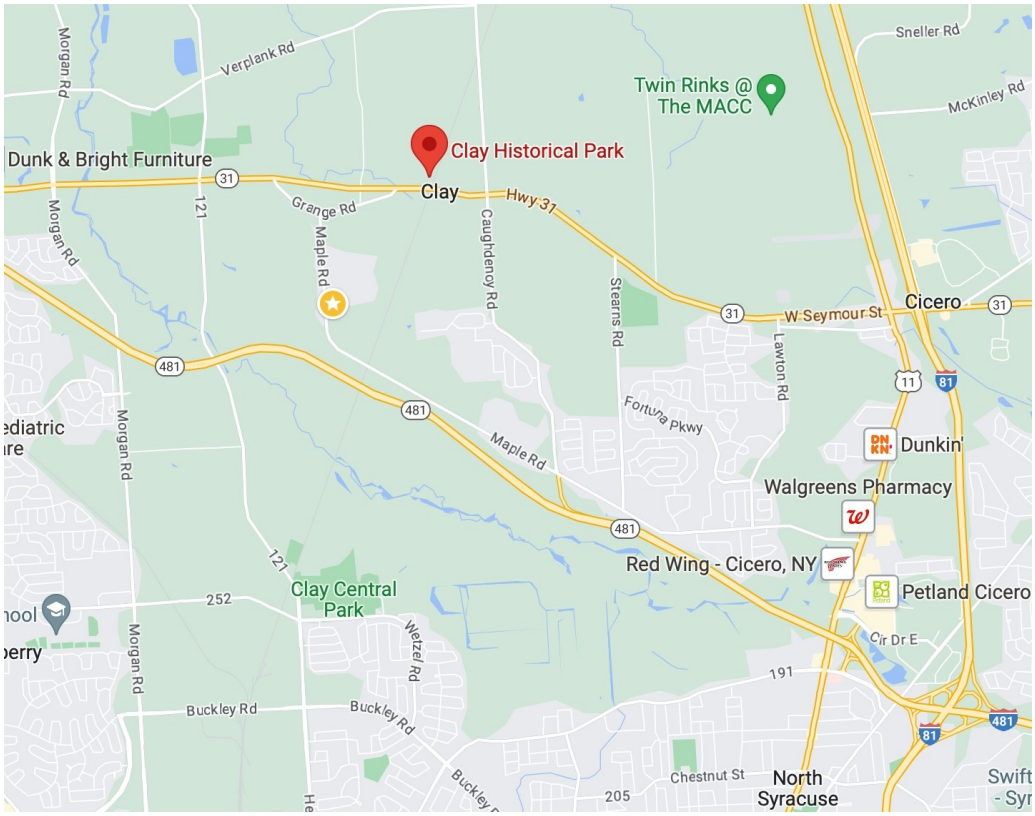
SAT/SUN APRIL 27&28
Ops 'til You Drop

SUNDAY MAY 19
Tom and Ben Lynch, Camillus

SAT/SUN NOVEMBER 2&3
Great NYS Train Fair

OTHER MEETINGS TBA

Clay Historical Park 4939 Rte. 31, Clay, NY 13041



The Clay Historical Park is off State Route 31 in Clay, NY. Depending on your direction of travel, reached from I81 at Cicero, or I481.

As always, don't take our word for it – confirm the location with your own GPS.

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