VOLUME 42, NUMBER 01 FEBRUARY 2024

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 . . .

SUNDAY FEBRUARY 25, 2024 – 2:00 – 4:00 PM
BOB DAVIDSON
EXHIBITS AND MORE
7843 GOGUEN DRIVE, LIVERPOOL

AT THIS MEETING AND IN THIS ISSUE . . .

Division Business: Election of Officers for 2024 will be in order. (See page 3)

Featured presentations: Drew James will present "A Train to the Great White North" about his trip to Moosonee on the Ontario and Northern RR. **Martin Collard** with do a show and tell on his vehicle models.

Swap Meet: Most of us have too much stuff, much of which we will never use, and which takes up space we could use to store new stuff. Bring your stuff and sell or trade it to another member for his spouse to complain about. If you do sell something, please make a donation to the Division.

Free Modeling supplies: Bob Davidson announced at the banquet that he will have a lot of leftovers from projects his business has done available for anyone who wants them.

This cold and snowy scene is on the Ontario Northland in Cochrane, Ontario. O&N 1808 is a GP38-2
(Photo by Drew James)

The Peterbilt log truck started out as a Lee Town Kenworth.
(Photo and Models by Martin Collard)

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
(315) 454-2516
larcproducts@yahoo.com
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Roger Beiswenger
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"Loose Spikes" . . .

(Notes from the "Ashpit")

Don't Get Left at the Station . . .

To stay onboard and keep receiving *Red Markers* e-mail notices, you need to be an NMRA member in good standing. Email notification is sent to all NMRA/NER Members residing in the geographic area of the CNY Division, and to any other members who identify as CNY Division members. If you do not have email or online capacity you may receive a US Mail edition of *Red Markers*.by contacting the Chief Clerk, who's name and address appear in The Brass Hats sidebar on this page.

PAYMASTER'S REPORT

4 December 2023-23 January 2024

Checkbook Balance, 4 Dec 2023	$ 4,372.00
Income	
19 Dec 2023 – Banquet Reservations - $280.00	
29 Dec 2023 - Banquet Reservations - $90.00	
9 Jan 2024 – Banquet Reservations - $160.00	
12 Jan 2024 - Banquet Reservations - $160.00	
22 Jan 2024 - Banquet Reservations - $140.00	
22 Jan 2024 – Ops Reservations - $285.00	
Total Income	$1,115.00
Expenses	
29 Dec 2023 – Red Markers - $13.28	
2 Jan 2024 – Banquet Refund – $40.00	
20 Jan 2024 – Banquet Expense - $1,148.00	
Total Expenses	$1,201.28
Checkbook Balance, 23 Jan 2024	$4,285.72

Savings Account -
Opening balance - $25.09 -Interest -$0.02 - Current balance - $25.11
Summary of Accounts: Checking $4,285.72
Savings $25.11
Total of Accounts $4,310.83

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
3/31/24

(Loose Spikes continued on page 4)

FROM THE FREIGHT SHED

DREW JAMES, SUPERINTENDENT

I just returned from a whirlwind weekend at the "Amherst Railway Society Railroad Hobby Show", better known locally as "The Springfield Show". If you have never been, it is a huge show located in four buildings at "The Big E." I believe it is the largest train show in the country and I heard that they set an attendance record on Saturday of over 15,000! I was there for most of the weekend and was pleased to see many of our division members enjoying the show.

The NMRA has a large presence at the show and several of us took a shift and "manned the booth" to talk to modelers about the many advantages of NMRA membership. The National NMRA board met on Friday before the show and many of the board members and our president, Gordy, were at the show. This year, the NMRA had a "meet and greet" room with tables and chairs where members could get off their feet and take a break when needed.

We had conversations with several people in leadership positions at national regarding our desire to bid a national convention in Rochester. Our bid committee gave a presentation to the "Manager, Meeting and Tradeshows" from national. As a result, we are no longer pursuing a convention in 2029 as we were asked to move forward with a bid for 2028 instead! This was our original plan, so we were happy to agree. Our major concerns (primarily having to do with floor space for the National Train Show) were alleviated, and we were encouraged to prepare a formal bid for presentation to the board within the next year. As a word of caution, nothing is official and many things could still go sideways. Our bid still will have to be accepted and if it is, the NER will negotiate a contract with national. However, we are optimistic and are moving forward. Hosting a national convention will be a prodigious amount of work and we will be counting on everyone from the three divisions involved as well as the region to help when the time comes. We are currently in the "this is exciting" phase. It won't be long before we enter the "this sure is a lot of work" phase.

We had great turnout for the banquet (sorry that we were a bit cramped). Many thanks to Charlie Albee for coordinating with the restaurant and taking care of the money. Hopefully the presentation from Lakeshores has you looking forward to attending the NER convention this Fall. I hope to see you at the annual meeting. Many thanks to Bob Davidson for volunteering the use of his place of business yet again. Yes, we must do a little business, but most of the meeting will be more "railroady."

Drew

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Per the division By-laws, nominations were made at the Banquet in January:

Superintendent – Drew James	Asst. Superintendent – Rick Mneice
Paymaster – Mark Withiam	Chief Clerk – Tom Lynch

TRAIN FAIR UPDATE

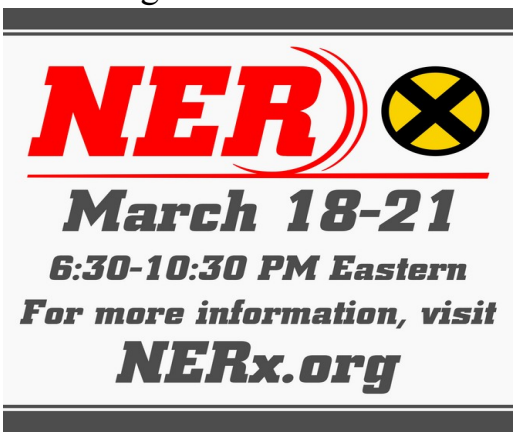
Some of you may have heard a rumor regarding the November Great NY State Model Train Fair hosted by the Central NY NRHS Chapter. We have spoken with the Chapter leadership and they and chapter members remain fully committed to the continuation of the show. This years show is scheduled for November 2nd and 3rd. The NRHS chapter is working with State Fair Administration to keep the show in the Expo Center.

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

FUTURE CONVENTIONS:

NMRA NATIONAL CONVENTION

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



LIKE US ON FACEBOOK!

FACEBOOK is a great place to 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 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

CNY DIVISION TOOL LOAN PROGRAM

Ed Olszewski, Division Storekeeper
and Member Aid Chair

The list of tools available for loan is on the CNY Division website in the "Tool Room" tab:
https://cnynmra.org/tool-room/

In summary, 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.

Send the Division Storekeeper an e-mail to cnynmra@gmail.com with the words "Tool Loan" in the subject line, listing the tool(s) you wish to borrow.

We would like to continue to add to the Divion store. If you have tools you no longer need and would like to donate them to the, contact the Storekeeper and let him know what you have to donate.

OPS AROUND THE CLOCK

March 22 & 23, 2024
Lakeshores Division

OPS 'TIL YOU DROP

April 27 & 28, 2024
Central NY Division

From The Dispatcher's Desk

DIVISION LIBRARY UPDATE

By Ed Olszewski

All of the division library material has been removed from Jim Heidt's house and has been secured at my house or with Charlie Albee. I have set up metal wire shelving with plastic shelf liners in my upstairs office where the environment is fully climate controlled to protect the books and periodicals. To date I have cleaned and deodorized 25% of the collection. Getting the mildew odor out of the books and magazines is a long process. The material is first wiped down with a clean rag slightly dampened with Denatured Alcohol to remove any dirt and mold and mildew spores. They are then placed in a large container with baking soda to remove any residual moisture in the paper and to allow the baking soda to absorb the odor. They are then placed on the shelf ready for use.

The division received a large donation of books and PRR Historical Society Keystone Magazines from the family of Mike Shanahan. This collection is a great addition to the library providing us with a great deal of prototype and modeling information on the Pennsylvania RR. We thank Mike's family for their generous donation.

Other books have recently been donated to the library by other Division members. If you have books you would like to donate to the library please let us know.

To date we have spent $87.41 of the $300.00 approved for moving and storing the Division Library. Soon I will be purchasing cardboard magazine boxes which are the same ones Jim was using. These are not archival storage boxes, archival boxes are far too expensive. A single archival storage box is the same cost as 50 of the cardboard boxes which have been used in the past. I do not believe this is an issue for the long term storage of the magazines and papers. They are now stored in a climate controlled room out of direct sunlight. I have looked at the magazines stored in these boxes and those from 1955 which have been in the boxes for a number of years show no signs of degradation other than what is expected from the paper used in the magazines.

As the Division Member Aid Chairman let me know if you have a question related to your modeling, either model or prototype, and I will use the library material to research an answer for you.

Are You a Model Railroader?
Are You a Modeler?
Are You Pursuing a STEAM Degree?

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Deadline for applications is July 1, 2024

To learn more, get an application, or make a donation, scan the QR code or visit:
www.newtracksmodeling.com/scholarship
Questions? E-mail us at:
NTMMS@newtracksmodeling.com

NEW TRACKS MODELING
MENTORING SCHOLARSHIP

Utica Station TTCS Show

We had a nice group of Engineers stop by to run the layout at the TTCS Train Show in Utica Station. Charlie, Bob, Angel, Ed and Roger helped out.

(Two photos by Roger Beiswenger.)

Central New York Model Railroad Club seeking members

By Donald Ackley-Perot

The Central New York Model Railroad Club has been in existence, and at the same location, for over 50 years. We are located in an 1870s(?) NYC train station at Skaneateles Junction, (Hartlott in Elbridge) where the Skaneateles Short Line RR met the NYC Auburn Road (Currently the Finger Lakes RR).

Our club is currently working on scenery for our 50'x12' two level layout. The lower level represents the Finger Lakes RR from Auburn to Solvay while the upper deck represents the CSX double main line from Lyons to the DeWitt yard. There is transition trackage measuring roughly 100' between levels. The trackage is all code 83 flex track with Atlas switches. 32" curves are the minimum on the CSX with 28" curves being the norm on the Finger Lakes. Some licenses have been used to enable continuous running, but operations are point to point. While operations are focused on late transition to modern era members may operate any era and road they wish on nights we are not operating. We utilize NEC DCC controls, radio control and wired with the possibility of WiFi in the future.

We also have a small DC dog bone layout at the east end of the club intended to get kids involved in the hobby, as well as a 5'x16' modular layout for shows.

The building itself, as mentioned, dates from the late 1800s. We have added new stairs and a ramp for easier access. We will be finishing the rear platform in the spring. The platform allows us to view the passing train which passes within 10' of our roofline. The interior houses a small but growing library collection and local RR artifacts including the tender spotlight off Skaneateles RR Steamer #4.

The club is open to all visitors. We are there on any Sunday, excluding Holidays and the first weekend in November from noon until roughly 4pm.

We welcome all individuals that are interested in Railroading be it prototype, modeling, or its history.

You can check out the club through our Facebook page or our web page at CNYMRRC.org.

2023 CNY Division Financial Summary

By Charles Albee, Paymaster

Savings Balance, 2/22/2023 $25.00
Interest – $0.11
Saving Balance, 12/31/2023 $25.11

Checking Balance, 1/1/2023 ---------- $5,707.63
Income
Raffle - $214.00
Donations - $100.00
Events- $2223.00
NER/NMRA - $94.90
Miscellaneous - $61.60
Total Income ----------$2,693.50

Expense
Transfer to savings - $25.00
Meeting Expense - $285.47
Events - $2,714.62
Name Badges - $219.57
Miscellaneous - $427.75
Total Expense –---------- $3672.41

Checking Balance, 12/31/2022 ---------- $4,728.72

Income

There was a raffle at only two meetings this 2023. Donations include funds received from individuals and groups. Events income is from Ops 'til You Drop, the banquet, and 2023 layout tour dinner. NER/NMRA: When you pay your NMRA dues, a portion is sent to the NER which then sends a portion to the division. In 2023 we received a $200 grant which helped defray the cost of the layout tour dinner. Miscellaneous income is any other source. It can be for replacement name badges or voided checks..

Expense

Meeting expense includes Red Markers which is printed and mailed to those who do not have email and donations made to meeting hosts. Events is related to Ops 'til You Drop, the banquet and the 2023 layout tour dinner. Miscellaneous includes costs of the division's loanable tools and fees related to the division 501c3 application. New this year are expenses related to the division library which previously was housed at Jim Heidt'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!

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

2024 CNY Division Schedule

Meetings 2-4 PM unless otherwise noted!

SATURDAY JAN. 20, 2024
12:00 – 4:00PM
Banquet – Theodore's, Canastota

SUNDAY FEBRUARY 25
Annual Meeting – Bob Davidson
"Exhibits and More," Liverpool
DETAILS IN THIS ISSUE

MON – THUR. MARCH 18–22
NERX

SUNDAY APRIL 14
Dave Martini, Liverpool

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

SUNDAY MAY 19
Tom and Ben Lynch, Camillus

JULY TBD 12 – 4 PM
Division Picnic – Drew James

SUNDAY AUGUST 18 3-5 PM
Train Watching – Tractor Supply

SEPT. 19 -22
NER Convention – Rochester

SUNDAY OCTOBER 6
CNYNRHS – Central Sq. Station

SAT/SUN NOVEMBER 2&3
Great NYS Train Fair

SUNDAY NOV. 17
Rick Mniece, Cicero

Bob Davidson, Exhibits and More, 7843 Goguen Drive, Liverpool

We met at Bob Davidson's business last year. Gougen Drive is in Liverpool, off Wetzel Road, between Morgan Road and Henry Clay Blvd. We recommend you use your GPS to bring you to the exact location.

Another one of Martin collard's outstanding vehicle models. This is a Fageol built from a Sylvan van trailer. *(Photo and models by Martin Collard.)*

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