The Central New York Division of The NMRA Presents:

"Ops Til You Drop" Weekend 2026

- **Saturday and Sunday, April 18/19, 2026**
- **Three Sessions Totaling 10.5 Hours of Railroad Operations**

on Three of Eight Top Layouts in the Syracuse NY Area

The Canada Spokane and Pacific of Drew James
The Leadville and Red Cliff of Bill Brown
CSX Northeast of Dave Martini
THE D&RGW Colorado Narrow Gauge of Bill Brown
The B&A Central of Dick Hehir
The Sioux City Lines of Bob Vickery
The New Haven Railroad of Ed O'Rourke
The Manhattan Terminal Railroad of Bruce Ryan
The Central NY Large Scale RR Society at Driver's Village*Back again!**
The NY and Penna. Railroad of Roger Beiswenger*Back again!**

The Schedule:

Saturday April 18th

12:00 Noon – Arrive at First Assigned Layout for Orientation
(11:00am for Ryan and Beiswenger Layouts Due to Travel Involved)**
12:30pm to 4:00pm – First Operations Session
(11:30am to 3:00pm for Ryan and Beiswenger Layouts)**
4:15pm to 4:45pm – Travel to Your Second Assigned Layout
(3:15pm to 4:45pm for Ryan and Beiswenger Layouts)**
4:45pm – 5:30pm – Dinner Served at Second Layout Site
5:30pm to 6:00pm – Orientation at Second Layout
6:00pm to 9:30pm – Second Operations Session
9:30pm – Travel to Your Hotel

Sunday April 19th

8:00am to 9:00am – Common Breakfast (site TBA)
10:00am – Arrive at Third Assigned Layout for Orientation
(11:00am for Ryan Layout)**
10:30am to 2:00pm – Third Operations Session
(11:30am to 3:00pm for Ryan Layout)**

Cost: $15

Covers Your Saturday Dinner and Snacks at Each Session
You Will Be Responsible for Your Hotel Cost
and Sunday Breakfast

Layout #1 - Canada Spokane and Pacific of Drew James –

The HO Canada Spokane and Pacific Railroad (CS&P) is a freelanced bridge line jointly owned by Burlington Northern and Canadian Pacific set in June, 1981. A long mountainous single track mainline connects five modeled towns with Spokane, Washington with Calgary, Alberta on this 40'x 35' point to point railroad. The design features wide aisles and a comfortable lounge for off duty crews. The scenery is 100% complete. The layout is operated by wireless NCE DCC and all trains are headed by sound equipped diesels. A replica US&S CTC machine is utilized for dispatching. Operating sessions feature a wide variety of local, manifest, and through freights as well as streamlined passenger trains. There is a large yard in Nelson, BC as well as several opportunities for switching at over 20 industries.

Layout #2 - Leadville & Red Cliff of Bill Brown

The LARC fills a 2400 sq foot basement and was featured three times in Model Railroader Magazine. The 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 LARC is controlled by Digitrax wireless DCC with CTC control with full signaling. 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…all during the operations!

Layout #3 - CSX Northeast of Dave Martini

The CSX Northeast is a 24'x40' 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. Unit trains of coal and cement are generated that travel east, while sweeper trains handle online switching duties. The West end features the shortline Central Ohio Railroad that interchanges with CSX at Euclid OH. Mainline trains are dispatched by a master schedule while locals and yard jobs work from switch lists. The layout is DCC (Digitrax) with operating signal on the West end of the Division.

Layout #4 – D&RGW Colorado Narrow Gauge of Bill Brown

Sitting above Bill Brown's modern LARC layout is a second level that takes one back in time. The D&RGW Narrow Gauge was featured in The July 2013 issue of The *Narrow Gauge and Short Line Gazette* and the June 2018 issue of *Model Railroader*. The plan features several intertwined aspects of Colorado Narrow Gauge including some aspects of the Rio Grande Southern from Ridgeway through Ophir Loop to Lizard Head Pass, The Rio Grande from Salida to Silverton, and the Silverton Railroad to Red Mountain Town. Most is set in 1949 with the exception of The Silverton Railroad which is set in 1910. All steam engines are sound equipped and the plan features timetable/train order dispatching.

Layout #5 – The B&A Central of Dick Hehir

The B&A Central is an 11' x 11' (plus staging) freelanced layout representing a fictitious part of The Boston and Albany Railroad connecting the two towns of Westfield and Millcreek Mass. At Westfield there is an interchange with the New Haven, and at Millcreek there is an interchange with the Boston and Maine. All three railroads share some mainline trackage. Freight service operates from all three railroads with passenger service also connecting the towns. Don't let the small size fool you, there is a great deal of operating action on this finely sceniced pike with an operating turntable, staging and a need for helper service. This is an ideal session for those who are new to Ops or just want to see how much activity can take place on a room size layout.

Layout #6 - The Sioux City Lines of Bob Vickery

The Sioux City Lines is an HO model of the Great Northern, Chicago Burlington & Quincy, and Illinois Central single track main line operations in Nebraska, Iowa, Illinois, and Minnesota and is set in the late 40s, 50s, and early 60s. The Sioux City Lines features wireless DCC and sound equipped motive power. The layouts design includes a large CB&Q / GN interchange yard (approx. 35 ft.), an IC yard (approx. 20 ft.), and single track mainlines (approx. 200 ft.) connecting a double ended staging yard. Mainline operations feature 25 to 30 car freights operating through 5 towns (currently) with local switching operations.

Layout #7 – The New Haven Railroad of Ed O'Rourke

Ed is attempting to model the New Haven Railroad as he remembers it growing up along the "Electrified Zone," modeling the area around New Haven Station in the early 1950's. Mainline passenger trains exchange electric motors for steam or diesel in New Haven. Mainline freights are pulled by electric, diesel and steam. Trains run point to point from two staging yards, one representing New York, Washington, and Maybrook, the other functioning as Boston, Springfield, Montreal and Cedar Hill Yard. There is an industrial switching area representing the Manufacturers Railway. Also modeled is the Canal Line and New Hartford Branch, which is an out and back switching turn and RDC passenger trains. Scenery is 60% complete.

Layout #8 – The Manhattan Terminal Railroad of Bruce Ryan

The Manhattan Terminal Railroad is a 1.6 mile proto-freelance layout focused on urban switching on the west side of Manhattan in the mid-1960s. The layout is inspired by terminal railroads in New York Harbor, which received cars only by car float, and the New York Central's West Side Freight Line, particularly the High Line, an elevated freight line that ran south of 30th Street Yard. The layout features urban scenery and details on the streets of Manhattan. When choosing this layout please be aware that there is a 1 hour travel time from/to all the Syracuse area layouts, hotels, and the Sunday breakfast. Ops times there start and end 1 hour prior to the other layouts to allow for travel. Sessions are held only during the first Saturday session and the Sunday session.

Layout #9 - New York Pennsylvania Central of Roger Beiswenger– New Hartford, NY

The NYPAC Adirondack Division is a free-lanced 1950's-1960's road running from Utica to Tupper Lake, running mostly New York Central equipment. The plan incorporates the Raquette Timber RR branch out of Tupper Lake. NCE wireless control is used, with several locos equipped with sound. Roger's track plan is 100% developed with 100% of the scenery completed.

Layout #10 - CNY Large Scale Railroad Society – Driver's Village, Cicero NY

The G Scale club layout is located in a former shopping mall that is now a car dealership. The building is open to the public. It is a free-lance plan based on the mid to late 20th century. It features 2400 square feet and two loops, with 12' curves and several switching areas with one large yard. The layout features both Revolution and Train Engineer controls operating with both track power and remote control.

Mail by March 27 (but much sooner is better) with your check for $15 to:

Bill Brown
6002 Singletree Lane
Jamesville, NY 13078

Checks should be payable to "CNY Division NMRA"

List on **ONE** form participants who are riding together and must be assigned to the same layouts:

Name_____ Email:_____ NMRA #_____

Address_____ Cell Phone_____

Name_____ Email:_____ NMRA #_____

Address_____ Cell Phone_____

Name_____ Email:_____ NMRA #_____

Address_____ Cell Phone_____

Name_____ Email:_____ NMRA #_____

Address_____ Cell Phone_____

Layout Requests – Note that each person on this form will be assigned to the same layouts. There are only a limited number of slots available for each layout so first forms received will get priority.

Select 3 layouts and number them 1, 2, 3 with 1 being your top choice. Layout assignments will be made approximately 2 weeks prior to sessions. There are no guarantees we can honor your preferences but we will try.

_____Layout #1 - The Canada, Spokane and Pacific of Drew James

_____Layout #2 - The Leadville and Red Cliff Modern RR of Bill Brown

_____Layout #3 - CSX Northeast of Dave Martini

_____Layout #4 - The Colorado Narrow Gauge of Bill Brown

_____Layout #5 - The B&A Central of Richard Hehir

_____Layout #6 – Sioux City Lines of Bob Vickery

_____Layout #7 – New Haven Railroad of Ed O'Rourke

_____Layout #8 – Manhattan Terminal of Bruce Ryan

_____Layout #9 – NY and Penna. Of Roger Beiswenger

_____Layout #10 – CNY Large Scale RR Society at Driver's Village