

**BOD MEETING MINUTES OF GARDEN STATE DIVISION, NE REGION,  
NMRA**

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**Purpose:** Garden State Division (GSD) Staff Meeting  
**Date/Time:** Saturday, November 15, 2014  
**Place:** New York Society of Model Engineers  
**Attendees:** Ciro Compagno, Bruce De Young, Andy Brusgard, Tom Casey, Jim Homoki, Jim Fawcett, Tom Wortmann, Jim Walsh  
Not in attendance: Joe Calderone, Bob Dennis, Anthony Piccirillo

Meeting was called to order at 9:00 AM

**November 15, 2014 - Motions Submitted and Approved.**

- (2014.11.15.1) Change the dates for the 2015 Mallery Trophy Award**
- (2014.11.15.2) Amend MOTION 2014.9.20.4, increase from \$200 to \$250**
- (2014.11.15.3) Offer free Rail Pass memberships at GSD meets in 2015**
- (2014.11.15.4) Purchase a Buhl Industries model AC-7858 projector screen**

**Reports were presented:**

President's Report Ciro – We are again on the heels of two successful meets – the Fall meet and our cosponsored LDSig/OpSig/RPM meet. Upcoming are our Winter and Spring meets. The Spring meet will be a joint meet with the New Jersey Division. In addition we have two important transitions – Secretary and Whistle Post Editor.

Vice-President's Report Bruce – At the last BOD meeting we discussed initiatives to try to increase membership. Some new members resulted from free rail passes for nonmembers at recent meets. If every member could get one new member we could grow rapidly. In New Jersey, many are leaving the state as they retire. Bruce is committed to continuing to push for new members. It should be a focus for all of us.

Secretary's Report - Copies of the minutes of the last BOD meeting were distributed for all to read. Jim Walsh pointed out the numbering of the motions that will become a standard for us in future minutes and in a developing document summarizing all of our Motions. There was a discussion of the level of detail of the minutes. The consensus was that these minutes had a good level of detail. The Minutes were Approved.

Treasurer's Report – In Bob's absence, Ciro distributed the current financial summary and presented the report. Year to date balance remains the same. We are breaking even and with the recent check from the NER, we are financially healthy. Bob is looking for creative ways to invest to increase our membership and help our meets. The Treasurer's Report was Accepted.

Education Committee and AP Reports – Bruce opened his report with the announcement of Howard Lash as the recipient of the 2014 Mallery Award. He was one of 3 members who had shown models at regional conventions. Jim Walsh will get the plaque and trophy made for 2014 for Howard Lash.

**MOTION** – Approved – The year for the 2015 Mallory award will begin the day after the Fall model contest of the 2014 NER and it will end on the close of the day on which the succeeding Fall Model Contest of the MER is held.

Jim Walsh will provide Bruce with select photos from the NER convention and GSD Fall meet for a Whistle Post article. Bruce is working with 2 GSD members pursuing their AP certificates. He also provided a brief status of the NMRA's EduTRAIN clinic program. Ciro introduced the idea of having Whistle Post articles available on the GSD web site.

**ACTION** – Tom W and Ciro will create a directory of Whistle Post articles on the GSD web site.

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Ciro also inquired about a capability for our web site to display differently on mobile devices. Bruce asked that our meet notices be a PDF flier attachment. These could be distributed more easily.

Event Report – **Winter Meet** date is set as February 7, 2015 at the Marine Corps League on Staten Island. Tom W. identified an issue with the cost for the facility and he may not be able to stay within the \$200 that were approved. He is negotiating but the cost could be up to \$250.

**MOTION** - Approved – Amend MOTION 2014.9.20.4, by increasing donation authorization from \$200 to \$250 for the Marine Corps League on Staten Island.

Ciro noted that we should begin working on the EQUIPMENT & SUPPLIES CHECKLIST for the meet. The meet will start at 9 AM. Tom W reported that the layouts and door prizes are covered but we need clinics. Bruce discussed “Make and Take” and will need to preorder the kits. We need to determine interest first. Tom W. suggested that interested members should prepay for the clinic. Bruce suggested sending out email soliciting for the participants and prepayment.

**World’s Greatest Hobby** show in Edison in March: Ciro will contact Bob Tumielewicz about helping. We need to have 2 tables with electricity. Plan to have Build a Memory layout display with one running and another being built during the show

**Spring Meet** with the New Jersey Division and Bob Clegg is fine with us also running our annual business meeting at the meet. The meet will be in May and Jim Homoki will check on availability of the Hillsborough Municipal Building

**MER Fall 2015 Convention** – We should support NJD and therefore we should not have a Fall meet and focus on the convention. Especially since there is also the OpSig/LDSig/RPM meet.

**OpSig/LDSig/RPM meet** – Jim Fawcett reported on the successful meet and discussed renaming the meet as the Garden State RPM. Next year we will need to promote the Rail Pass offer better.

**MOTION** – Approved - Offer free Rail Pass memberships for new members recruited at GSD meets in 2015. This applies to residents of New Jersey and Staten Island that were never NMRA members.

**ACTION**– Jim Walsh to check motion for sponsorship of OpSig/LDSig/RPM to see if it was open ended.

Membership & Club Chair’s Report - Tom Casey presented October 2014 membership report showing 222 members. For Rail Pass members, about 50% sign up once and about 33% stay as members. Tom Casey noted that all of the BOD received the 30 and 60 day past due list as part of the email that he sent out. Ciro said that since Jim Homoki is now Whistle Post editor, Ciro wants to give the Club Chair responsibilities back to Tom Casey.

**ACTION** – Tom Casey to get club information from Bruce and provide it to Tom W. for the web site.

**ACTION** – Jim Walsh to check if a motion was passed to give Tom Casey’s Club Chair to Jim Homoki.

Whistle Post Report. –

As part of the transition of editor, Joe Calderone wants to have a conference call with Ciro and Jim Homoki. Ciro also said that as editor Jim can choose a format that he likes. Bruce also noted that since it is not printed, there may be other options of software other than MS Publisher.

Old Business – Jim Walsh presented the GSD Survey results including summary of responses and a list of clinic topics sorted by interest. He also reported that there were volunteers for all the clinic topics. Bruce mentioned that a good mix of clinics combines a “how to” clinic with one with a historical topic. He always likes to have a clinic that teaches something that you can go home and do it. There was a discussion that suggested that we need a Clinic Coordinator and Jim Fawcett volunteered for that role.

**ACTION** – Jim Walsh will send Jim Fawcett the list of clinic volunteers from the survey.

Ciro noted that for the next survey correct the numbers in the selections and add historical and RPM topics. The survey will be summarized for the next issue of the Whistle Post.

Tom W. presented information on an assortment of projector screens to replace the old screen that we have been using.

**MOTION** – Approved - The GSD will acquire a Buhl Industries model AC-7858 projector screen

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New Business – Discussion of the Ed Fred service award and a possible award for Chuck. We do not have a candidate for the Ed Fred award at this time. We will give a special award to Chuck.

ACTION – Jim Walsh will work with the BOD and Joe Calderone to come up with an award plaque for Chuck. In discussing activities for the summer meet, Jim Homoki suggested something with Harold Werthwein and there may be another layout in the area. There may be some other prototype things to do in the area.

ACTION – Jim Fawcett to contact Harold about a meet at his home

Joe Calderone will not be running again as a director and there will be an opening in the upcoming election.

Tom Casey has accepted the appointment of Election Chairman position and he will work with Ciro in developing the mail-in ballot. The ballot must be in the January Whistle Post.

Meeting adjourned around 12:30 pm.

**Next BOD Meeting 17 JAN 2015 at home of Jim Fawcett – At 9:00 AM**

Respectfully submitted,

*Jim Walsh*

Jim Walsh, Secretary NMRA/NER/GSD