Northeastern Region NMRA
Annual Meeting of the Members
Sunday, November 12, 2017
The Atlantic Resort Newport, Newport, RI

1. President John Doehring called the meeting to order at 9:38 am

   The attendance sheet is included in these minutes as Attachment (1). A total of 39 NMRA members were in attendance. A quorum being present, the meeting could proceed.

2. President Doehring called for the standard reports.

   - **Secretary's Report**
     NER Secretary Chip Faulter reported that the meeting minutes for the 9/18/16 NER Annual Meeting of the Members was posted on the NER website shortly after the meeting last year. Bob Dennis moved that we dispense with the reading of the minutes, and accept the minutes as written and posted on the NER website. The motion was seconded by Rich Breton and was approved by hand vote. There were none opposed.
   - **Treasurer's Report**
     NER Treasurer Roger Oliver stated that the NER "treasury" was going through a transition as he was taking over for immediate past NER Treasurer Peter McKenney. The NER bank accounts were being moved from Androscoggin Bank to TD Bank to make it easier for him to do business. Roger also stated that the NER Investment account at Edward Jones was being managed by the NER Investment Committee chaired by Joe Santoro, was doing well and currently had a balance in excess of $50K. Roger also suggested that the NER BOD consider moving to a Jan-Dec fiscal year from the current Jul-Jun fiscal year. Finally, Roger requested that all bills and receipts from the Newport convention be forwarded to him ASAP so that he could close the books on the convention. Bob Dennis moved that the Treasurer's Report be accepted as presented. The motion was seconded by Scooter Youst and was approved by hand vote. There were none opposed.
   - **Convention Committee Report**
     Convention Committee Chair David Insley thanked Steve Erickson and the local Newport convention committee for all of their hard work. Steve Erickson suggested in jest that

looking back the convention will be known as "4 Weddings and a Funeral with Trains" (the hotel hosted 4 weddings and funeral during the time the convention was being held). Steve also stated that the local convention committee had had an excellent working relationship with the hotel and suggested that a letter from the region to the hotel might be appropriate. David stated that the presentation given for the 2018 Mahwah, NJ convention at the banquet pretty much covered everything there is to say at the moment about that event. The 2019 Syracuse Convention Committee is finalizing their proposal to the NER Convention Committee. Dave stated that in all of our conventions, we should focus on the value to the members, not just the cost of the convention. Finally, David stated that the NER Convention Committee as well as the local convention committees are always looking for volunteers so if you are interested, please contact Dave or your division convention committee representative.

- **Achievement Program Report**
  AP Chair Bill Brown stated that the presentations made at the banquet would stand as his report.
- **The Coupler Editor's Report**
  Editor Jeff Paston stated that the January edition of The Coupler was ready to go to print and would contain a lead article on the 2018 New Jersey Convention. Bill Brown recognized Jeff for his work on The Coupler and stated that the coupler was a "world class" newsletter.
- **Webmaster's report**
  President John Doehring introduced the new NER Webmaster, Dave Abrames from the Nutmeg Division. Johns stated it is his goal to work with Dave to make the NER website of similar quality to The Coupler.
- **Membership Committee Report**
  NER Membership Committee Chair Jim Rizzolo reported that the NER membership committee met on Saturday during the convention. Jim reported that there is an action in development by the committee. Jim requested that everyone at this meeting should convince just one of their non-NMRA model railroading buddies to join the NMRA … if everyone did that, we would double the size of the organization.
- **No Area Directors Provided a Report**
- **Photo Contest Chair Report**
  Attachment (2) provides The Newport Convention Photo and Art Contest Report. This report was generated by NER Convention Photo Contest Chair Bill Barry. This report was not presented at the meeting but reflects the awards presented at the banquet and is included here for the record.

Scooter Youst moved that all of the reports not individually approved be approved as presented. The motion was seconded by Bob Dennis and was approved by hand vote. There were none opposed.

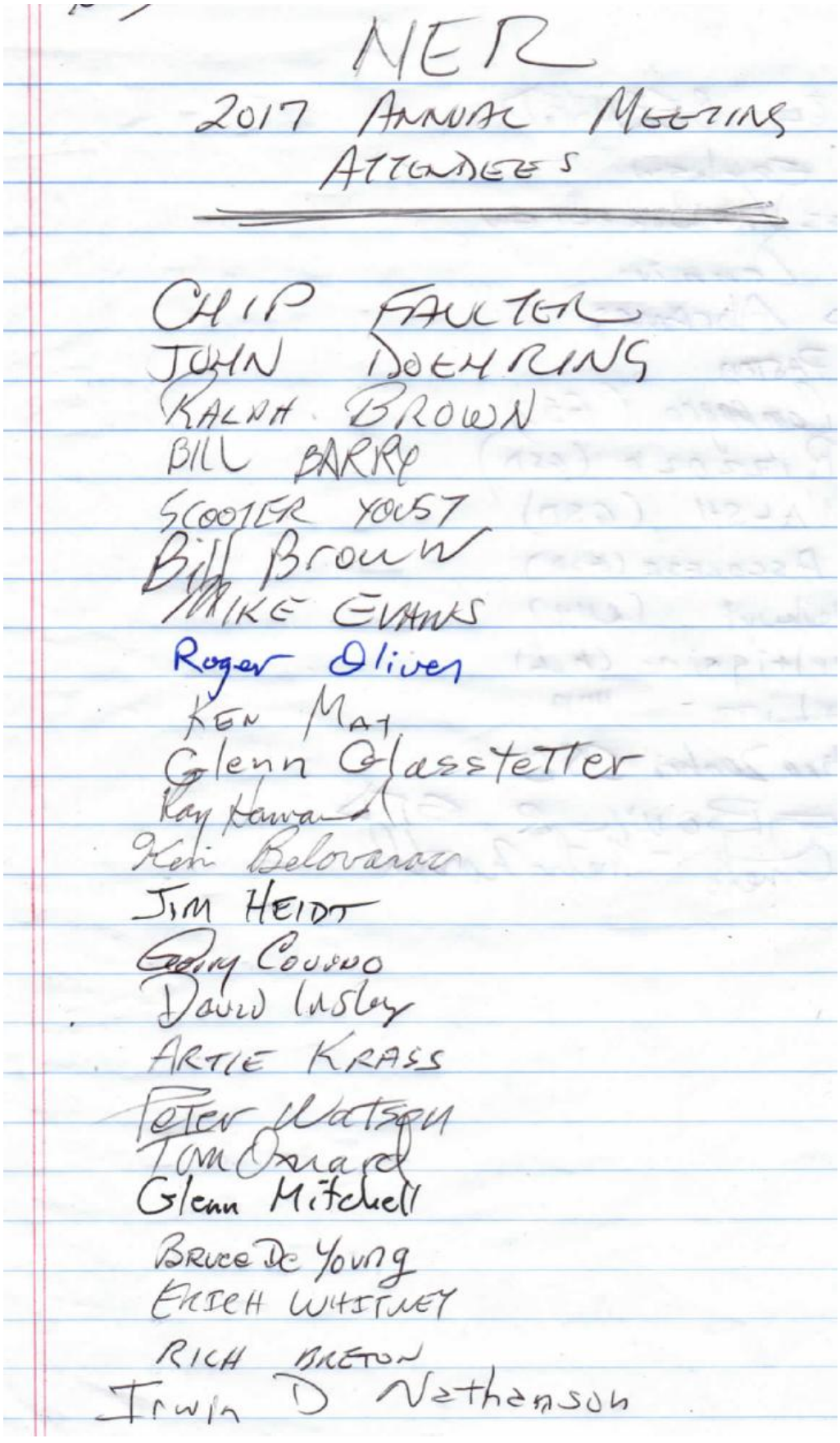
3. President Doehring then summarized what was going on in the NER from his viewpoint:
   - John pointed out the newly acquired banners that have replaced the old display booth which was heavy to move, and hard to set up and store.
   - Implementation of the NER Strategic Plan has started and is a direct result of the 2015 NER member survey.

- The Lakeshores Division (LSD) was moved from the Niagara-Frontier region in to the NER during 2017. John recognized LSD President Ray Howard.
- John also mentioned that there are in excess of 25 NMRA modelers in "eastern" Canada that are interested in re-activating a Canadian division. This Division name will change to the "Eastern Canada" Division to more accurately reflect the area represent by these members. Work is on-going on this re-activation.
- John stated that a key item in the NER Strategic Plan is to address NER "governance". There is an NER election in 2018. Discussion is ongoing on the structure and terms of the NER BOD going forward. Further, the paper ballot system used in the past was costly and some form of electronic balloting is being considered. John asked if there were any objections to using an electronic ballot and none were made.
- Also from the 2015 survey, it was suggested that the NER host more events. One item under discussion is a no-host get together during the West Springfield train show. This was tried last year with about a dozen NMRA folks attending.

4. President Doehring opened the floor to any other comments:
    - The Hudson-Berkshire Division noted that their "Great Train Extravaganza" would be held Sunday December 3 from 10 am to 4 pm at the Empire State Convention Center in Albany.
    - Jim Heidt stated that the CNY Division was delighted to have the Lakeshores Division as their "NER" neighbor and looked forward to their participation in the 2019 Syracuse Convention.
    - Bruce deYoung requested that each division consider providing a clinician with a new topic for the 2018 Mahwah Convention.

5. President Doehring called for adjournment at 10:30 am.

    Scooter Youst moved for adjournment. The motion was seconded by Rich Breton. The motion carried with none opposed.



NER
2017 ANNUAL MEETING
ATTENDEES

CHIP FAULTER
JOHN DOEHRING
KALNA BROWN
BILL BARRY
SCOOTER YOUST
Bill Brown
MIKE EVANS
Roger Oliver
KEN MAY
Glenn Glassetter
Ray Kawa
Keri Belovarac
JIM HEIDT
Gary Covino
David Insley
ARTIE KRASS
Peter Watson
TOM Oxnard
Glenn Mitchell
BRUCE DE YOUNG
ERICH WHITNEY
RICH BRETON
Irwin D Nathanson

ANGEL BERNARD
Steve Erickson
JAMES VAN BOKKELEN
Bob Dennis
DAVID ABRAMES
JEFF PASTON
Ciro Compagno (GSD)
JIM RIZZO (GSD)
JIM WALSH (GSD)
STEVE ASCOLESE (GSD)
Rob Verkuyl (CNY)
Peter Higgins (hub)
JOHN LUTZ HUB
Christina Zambri GSD
MIKE BOWLER STD
Al Onelo - Metro North

201 Rails to the Gilded Age
Photo and Art Contest Report
November 12, 2017

2017 Rails to the Gilded Age Convention
Photo and Art Contest Report:

Judges: Bob Peters, Doug Scott and Mike Tylick

The Photo Contest judged categories:

- **Black and White print of a model,**
- **Color print of a model,**
- **Black and White print of the prototype,**
- **Color print of the prototype,**
- **Graphic Art category**
- **"Imagineered" Photography**

One non-judged Exhibition Only category.

15 judged entries, in the two Color Print categories on, so unfortunately, we didn't receive entries in other categories.

The 'Peoples' Choice' Awards were as follows:

- **Favorite Model, Color Print: (#123) Andy Reynolds "Tidewater Wharf Building"**
- **Favorite Prototype, Color Print: (#118) Thomas Oxnard "Run-Around"**

The Best in Show Peoples' Choice Award, based on the entry receiving the most votes, goes to: (#127) Richard Walz, Model, Color Print of "Powering Up"

For the judged entries, 9 certificates were given to 6 different entrants. At least 4 were first time entrants.

Rails to the Gilded Age Judged Photo Contest winners were:

Model, Color Print

- **Honorable Mention, Model, Color Print: (#123) Andy Reynolds "Tidewater Wharf Building"**
- **Third Place, Model, Color Print: (#120) Andy Reynolds "Landscape View – Boat Repair Shop"**
- **Second Place, Model, Color Print: (#126) Rich Breton "Flag Stop at Mathews Station"**
- **First Place, Model, Color Print: (#127) Richard Walz "Powering Up"**

Prototype, Color Print

- **Honorable Mention, Prototype, Color Print: (#124) Rich Breton "Fresh Paint on NHN #3823"**
- **Third Place, Prototype, Color Print: (#118) Thomas Oxnard "Run-Around"**
- **Second Place, Prototype, Color Print: (#114) Kaylee Zheng "Horse-Power"**
- **First Place, Prototype, Color Print: (#115) Bob Verkuyl "Taking Sand – Durango 1970"**

The award for Best in Show went to
(#125) Rich Breton for his Color, Model Print of "1909 Reflections of B&M"

All submissions were picked up after the conclusion of Saturday's festivities.

This report prepared by the NER Photo/Craft Contest Chairman William H. Barry on November 12, 2017