



**Northeastern Region, NMRA
BOARD of DIRECTORS MEETING
10/02/22**

Meeting conducted over Internet via Zoom.

Present:

Officers

President: Ed O'Rourke
Vice President: David Insley
Secretary: Jeff Paston
Treasurer: Gerry Covino

Directors

Northern: Tom Oxnard
Eastern: Erich Whitney
Western: Ed Olszewski
Southern: Ciro Cmpagno

NER Staff & Guests

Coupler editor: Chris Carfaro
Webmaster: Jim Seroskie
Communications: Chuck Diljak

Asst. to President:



Past President: John Doehring

Central NY: Rick Mniece

Eastern Canada: Greg Williams
Bob Henry

Garden State: Mark Morwitz

Green Mt.: Erich Golschneider

HUB: Manny Escobar

Hudson Valley:



Hudson-Berkshire: Irwin Nathanson

Lakeshores: David Durr
Ed O'Connell

Little Rhody: Sue Osberg

Metro-North:



Nutmeg: Jeff Hanke
Ron Pelletier

Seacoast: Glenn Mitchell

Southern Tier: Bob Peterson

Sunrise Trail: Dennis DeAngelis

Not present: Bob Dennis; Hudson Valley; Metro North

Meeting called to order at 7:06 pm EDT by President Ed O'Rourke.

- **Approval of Previous Minutes:**

- i. [7/10/22 minutes](#)

- Jeff Hanke moved to accept minutes; Sue Osberg seconded. [Carried](#)

- **STANDARD REPORTS**

- 1 President's Report**

- i. [Full report in ATTACHMENT #1](#)

- ii. President O'Rourke asked for volunteers to be at NER booth at Springfield show in January. He said CNY Div. switching layout will be there and will provide activities for visitors to the booth.

- iii. President O'Rourke asked the Sunrise Trail Div. for promotional material for its upcoming convention. Supt. Dennis DeAngelis said it is being worked on

- iv. President O'Rourke noted need to update NER bylaws and election procedures to include Internet functionality.

- v. President O'Rourke said he is looking forward to hearing more on Directors and Officers insurance availability from NMRA leadership.

- a. Southern Director Ciro Compagno asked about coverage for malfeasance by directors or officers.

- b. Eastern Director Erich Whitney asked NMRA Eastern Director John Doehring about the D&O insurance. John said Bob Dennis investigated this and found that National didn't find an economy of scale to offer it to regions and divisions. John said he will check further.

- 1. John noted that National once viewed Divisions as separate entities. He noted that most Divisions would like to get some guidance. He said the National directors will likely meet on Friday night during the Springfield show, so that they can attend the show over the weekend.

- c. Lakeshores Supt. David Durr asked whether there is any history of problems and questioned why the premium is so high. Doehring said there was a problem in the 1990s in the NER when officers were alleged to have taken some funds. He noted recent NMRA concerns concern "at risk" youth, and said no insurance will cover that.

- vi. President O'Rourke appointed Ed O'Connell from Lakeshores Div. as Ops Chair.

- 2. Vice President's Report**

- i. [Full report in ATTACHMENT #2](#)

- 3. Treasurer's Report – Gerry Covino**

- i. [Full report in ATTACHMENT #3](#)

- David Durr moved to approve Treasurer's Report; Mark Morwitz seconded. [Carried](#)

- 3a. Audit Committee Report**

- i. [Full report in ATTACHMENT #4](#)

- Ed Olszewski moved to approve Audit Committee Report; Jeff Hanke seconded. [Carried](#)

- 4. NER Convention Committee Report – Dave Insley**

- i. [Full report in ATTACHMENT #5](#)

- ii. President O'Rourke noted that the Windsor convention did better than expected.

- iii. Sunrise Trail Supt. Dennis DeAngelis said the Division went back to its selected hotel for adjustment in room allocations after seeing what was done in Windsor.

- iv. Eastern Canada Div. President Greg Williams noted the convention Website is up at [fundyrailfest2023.ca](#). He said reservations will be available starting early in 2023. He said plans are still being ironed out. President O'Rourke asked for flier and other publicity for placement with divisions, the Region Website and in the Coupler.

- v. Seacoast Div. Supt. Glenn Mitchell said his division board had an exploratory meeting to consider hosting 2024 convention. He inquired whether Lakeshores might be able to switch hosting years. Glenn said Seacoast looking for a venue.

5. **Coupler Editor's Report**

- i. Chris Carfaro has been very ill with COVID and pneumonia
- ii. Assistant Editor Max Brisben took care of sending this issue to printer
- iii. New issue should be out a few days late. Chris said he got good, strong feedback at the Windsor convention about the Coupler. He said he would like to do a survey about what readers would like to see regarding the convention models and op sessions.
 - a. Webmaster Jim Seroski and Communications Coordinator Chuck Diljak noted access for Region and National to use *Survey Monkey*.
 - b. President O'Rourke urged members to submit more photos to the NER Website.

6. **Communications - Chuck Diljak**

i. Full report in ATTACHMENT #6

• **OLD BUSINESS**

- i. Seacoast Supt. Glenn Mitchell asked about Officer & Director Liability Insurance that had been discussed at the NER BOD meetings. He would like to flow the coverage down to Division officers and Directors.
 - a. President O'Rourke reported both NMRA Directors Frank Koch and Bob Amsler informed him that Region officers are not covered by the NMRA Directors and Officers insurance.
 - b. He said NER is looking into purchasing D&O coverage ourselves, but he said the cost is considerable. He said this is an area the National could step up and provide assistance.
- ii. Supplemental RailPass fees for NER Divisions **tabled from 7/10/22 meeting**
 - a. VP Dave Insley had proposed the following for adoption into the policies of the NER:
 - 1. Assume responsibility for the current GSD efforts to fund a portion of the RailPass for anyone signing up
 - 2. Dave noted that in Springfield, currently the GSD pays \$9.95 and the member pays \$10.
 - b. President O'Rourke said there is progress on this proposal. He said he could not find information on how many Railpass memberships morph into full memberships.
 - 1. He said he would like NER to pick up subsidy for Railpass at Springfield show.
 - 2. He suggested divisions could subsidize Railpass at other shows within their division, but NER will subsidize NER Railpass at Springfield.
 - A) Western Director Ed Olszewski wants this limited to personal sales pitches, but he said he is against any promotional signage
 - c. Lakeshores Division Supt. David Durr noted that out of 19 Railpasses it sold last year, six are still still Railpass members; 10 signed up as active NMRA members; and three dropped out.
 - d. Southern Director Ciro Compagno pointed out what the rules say for Railpass.

Tom Oxnard moved that the NER subsidize Railpass for one year at the 2023 Springfield show; Ciro Compagno seconded. **Carried**

- **NEW BUSINESS**

None reported.

- **AREA DIRECTOR REPORTS**

Western

Northern

Eastern

- i. [Full report in ATTACHMENT #7](#)
- ii. Director Erich Whitney concerned about the role of area directors.
 - a. President O'Rourke said he viewed Area Directors as outreach providers.
 - b. Southern Director Ciro Compagno said he finds he is a "go to person" from divisions that need assistance. President O'Rourke noted how he and Ed Olszewski helped Hudson Valley Division and will be helping Southern Tier.

- **DIVISION DIRECTOR REPORTS**

Central NY

- i. [Full report in ATTACHMENT #8](#)

Eastern Canada

- i. VP stepped down and Division is seeking a replacement.

Garden State

- i. [Full report in ATTACHMENT #9](#)
- ii. Fall meet next week

Green Mountain

- i. The Division Setting will be having a table and displaying a layout at the Upper Valley Model Railroad Show hosted by the Connecticut Valley Model Railroad Club in White River Junction, VT on October 16th.

HUB

- i. [Full report in ATTACHMENT #10](#)
- ii. HUB President Manny Escobar noted participation by Division's modular layout group
- iii. He said HUB is setting up for the Model Train Expo
- iv. HUB will be bringing back its Spring Training Show (with a new name) at Manchester MA on April 23, 2023.
- v. Manny said he has been talking with Conway Scenic Railroad for a 2023 excursion.
- vi. He noted HUB had been having successful Railfun meetings.

Hudson Valley

- i. President O'Rourke said the Hudson Valley Division will be participating at the Kingston and Poughkeepsie train shows, and at an O&W Historical Society event in November. President O'Rourke said he will bring promotional materials to help with recruitment.

Hudson-Berkshire

- i. [Full report in ATTACHMENT #11](#)
- ii. HBD President Irwin Nathanson said the Division started face-to-face meetings this fall.
- iii. He said there is concern over increasing prices for use of NY State Convention Center in Albany for the HBD Great Train Extravaganza each year in December. He said HBD is trying to locate another venue.
- iv. HBD Treasurer Ben Maggi has agreed to run for Division president. Irwin said he will continue as advertising coordinator for the GTE show.

Lakeshores

- i. [Full report in ATTACHMENT #12](#)
- ii. Supt. David Durr said that NMRA members may submit "What's on Your Workbench" articles in last newsletter issue each year. He said submissions can be sent to superintendent@lakeshoresNMRA.org.
- iii. Ops Around the Clock, coordinated by Ed O'Connell, will be Oct. 29 & 30. Interested participants may contact Ed for open spots at webmaster@lakeshoresNMRA.org.

Little Rhody

- i. [Full report in ATTACHMENT #13](#)
- ii. Supt. Sue Osberg reported that the Division is continuing its library visits after Jan. 1.

Nutmeg

- i. Supt. Jeff Hanke reported its board is meeting Oct. 8.
- ii. Jeff thanks everyone for help on convention in Windsor.

Seacoast

- i. Supt. Glenn Mitchell reported that the Division is spending a lot of time working on hosting a future convention.

Southern Tier

- i. Supt. Bob Peterson said he had been working on emails to see if anyone is interested in leadership roles in the Division, but received no response.
 - a. Secretary Jeff Paston suggested phoning individuals.
 - b. HBD President Irwin Nathanson noted individual recruiting was helped by writing a letter/article explaining what the job (of president) is, or as Irwin noted, what president doesn't do! A lot of what president does is contingent about the times (conventions, shows, etc.). He said writing the letter "broke the ice."
 - c. Coupler Editor Chris Carfaro said once one person is found to help, then two people can seek out others.

Sunrise Trail

- i. Supt. Dennis DeAngelis said Sunrise Trail is focused on hosting next year's convention.
- ii. He said there is a fall meet on Nov. 12.
- iii. He said the Division's "Lets Talk Trains" get-togethers at a Visitor's Center at a Long Island Expressway.at rest area is a success.

Erich Whitney noted what a great time he had at the Hudson-Berkshire Division Op-toberfest this past weekend, which he said was well organized. He said "Hats off to Everybody for fantastic time." Ed O'Connell shared the great time he had operating on "phenomenal" model railroads during the weekend in Central Pennsylvania.

Next meeting scheduled for 7pm Eastern/8pm Atlantic time on **Sunday, Jan. 8.**

Ed O'Connell moved for adjournment; Erich Whitney seconded. Carried
Meeting adjourned at 8:29 pm EDT.

Respectfully submitted,
JEFF PASTON, NER Secretary

ATTACHMENT #1

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

October 2022

Positives:

The 2022 Region Convention "Connecticut Yankee" in Windsor, CT September 15 – 18, was successful. No financial loss. 2023 Convention is set for Columbus Day weekend 2023 on Long Island.

NMRA National BOD will meet during West Springfield Train Show. Plans to enhance the NER/NMRA presence are in the works.

Dave Insley will be looking for volunteers to staff the booth – we will need at least 20 to make it work.

Bob Dennis will set up the annual Friday night dinner for NER volunteers. Unsure a present how this will dovetail with NMRA meeting(s).

I have been in communication with Scale Trains about bringing their "Road Show" to the NER.

We will have a presence at the Kingston, Poughkeepsie, and O&W Historical Society in the Hudson Valley Division to promote membership and the convention

Challenges/Ongoing issues:

- Oswego and Jefferson counties in upstate NY remain a concern to us. These two counties are officially in the NFR St. Lawrence Division and suffer from the same cross-border issues as the Western NY division (which has become a new NFR Division separate from the International Division) and the Lakeshores and Southern Tier Divisions, which are now part of the NER. There is an active Model Railroad group in the Oswego-Fulton area and also in the Watertown-Alexandria Bay area, but most are not NMRA members. It would seem that the logical course would be to bring these two counties into the Central New York Division, but this makes that division very large geographically. Our West At-Large Director Ed Olszewski has this on his "to-do" list, but how to proceed is unclear at present.
- Several areas of our by-laws need some revision, particularly with the need to hold elections and meetings virtually during the pandemic.
- The "At-risk Persons" policy has generated pushback from at least one Division, and I believe there is considerable confusion as to how it could be implemented given the variety of states and provinces we cover. One of our members has had an ongoing email conversation with John Doehring regarding it. I do not see how it is possible for us to implement it as it stands and look for a revision from the National BOD.
- I have been told by both Frank Koch and Bob Amsler that Region officers are not covered by the NMRA Officers and Directors insurance. We are looking into purchasing coverage ourselves, but the cost is considerable. This is an area the National could step up and provide assistance.

ATTACHMENT #2

NER Vice President Report

2-October 2022

Spate Award

Please send nominations for the 2023 Spate award to me.

Congratulations to Ken May, this year's Spate Award winner.

Springfield

The Amherst Railway Society Railroad Hobby Show is January 28&29, 2023. We need volunteers to staff the NMRA booth. Free admission if you sign up for two slots as follows:

Saturday	Sunday
8-11	9-11
11-1	11-1
1-3	1-4
3-5	

Please let me know if you can help, preferred times and days. We need multiple people for each timeslot. I need names of volunteers (can be anyone from the divisions) by October 15.

The National BOD will be meeting in Springfield, so this will be an opportunity to meet the various members of the NMRA National Team.

There will be a dinner on Friday night. Details will come from Bob Dennis.

ATTACHMENT #3



Northeastern Region - NMRA
BUDGET vs ACTUAL (Cash Basis)
 Fiscal Year 2022-23

Balances as of
 10/2/2022

REVENUES	Budget	Actual	%
Subscriptions - Coupler	\$ 6,800.00	\$ 2,145.00	31.5%
Investment Fund Transfer	2,000.00		
Sponsorship - Coupler	325.00	0.00	
NMRA Dues Rebate	2,000.00	936.59	46.8%
NMRA Dues Rebate AP 27%	540.00	346.41	64.2%
Convention	1,500.00		
Donations	1,000.00	0.00	
Interest Income	0.00		
Other - Spate Award	75.00	59.77	79.7%
Total Revenue	\$ 14,240.00	\$ 3,487.77	24.5%

EXPENSES	Budget	Actual	%
Coupler	\$ 8,000.00	\$1,685.27	21.1%
NMRA Dues Rebates Distribution	2,000.00	936.59	46.8%
Achievement Program	500.00		
Membership Development Program	2,000.00		
Spate Award	75.00	59.77	79.7%
President's Awards	50.00		
Legal - NJ Business Registration	35.00	0.00	
Contingency Fund	100.00		
Regional Banner	0.00		
Office Expenses	150.00	88.86	59.2%
Other - Election Expenses	0.00		
Other - Credit Card/PayPal Fees	0.00	22.45	0.0%
Communication Expenses			
Constant Contact	400.00	0.00	
Site Ground Hosting Expense	0.00	0.00	
Region Annual Domain Fees	190.00	0.00	
Website Tools	368.00	0.00	
SG Site Scanner	40.00	0.00	
Division Domain Registry Fees	54.00	0.00	
Total Expenses	\$ 13,962.00	\$ 2,792.94	20.0%
Net Operating Revenue/Expense	\$ 278.00	\$ 694.83	249.9%

Sunday, October 2, 2022

NER Investment Reserve Account (Edward Jones)	\$	54,593.56
Operations Reserve	\$	53,363.04
Life Equity Fund	\$	74.00
Spate Award	\$	1,156.52
NER Convention Account Balance	\$	8,126.31
PayPal Account Balance	\$	2,848.55
Regional Checking Account Balance	\$	3,731.97
Dues Rebate (Southern Tier)	\$	81.03
Coupler Ledger	\$	3,422.00
General Funds	\$	228.94
Total NER FUNDS All Accounts	\$	69,300.39

Budget Approved and Authorized
 By NER Board
 April 10, 2022

ATTACHMENT #4

NER Convention Committee Report
02-Oct 2022

Current Highlights

2022 Convention – Connecticut Yankee is in the books
2023 Convention – Cannonball Express 2023 is rolling along
2023 Convention – Eastern Canada/MFMR Memorial Day event
2023 NERx – Planning in progress
2024 – Growing concern that we have no identified convention

Meetings

Last meeting was in August. Minutes are [here](#).
Next Meeting is January 9.

Convention Handbook Updates

Final version of the Convention Handbook has been sent to the President and Webmaster. You can find it [here](#).

2022 – Connecticut Yankee – Windsor CT

The convention is complete and congratulations to the team for a job well done. I heard nothing but positive feedback. I am coordinating with the team for a retrospective within the next several weeks.

Numbers we low based on previous conventions.

Month	-7	-6	-5	-4	-3	-2	-1	0	Total	Date	Column1
2016				61	17	32	57	31	198	1-Sep	
2017		13	25	49	14	13	9	11	134	1-Nov	
2018	2	27	40	19	18	54	9	16	185	1-Sep	*11 one day registrations
2019		53	30	15	47	8	12	9	174	19-Sep	
2020	15	21							36	9-Oct	Rolled into 2021
2021			37	34	71	14	16	9	181	8-Oct	
2022			27	12	16	53	15	13	136	15-Sep	

Final Numbers

Item	Current
Total Primary Registrations	136
• Early	44
• Early Combo Registration	68
• Regular Registrations	16
• Regular Combo Registrations	6
• At Door	2
Spouse/Family Registrations	33
• Regular	15

• Combo	18
Non-NMRA Member Fee (Registrations included above)	3
Banquet	15 (57 total)
Thursday Evening Welcome Reception	12 (52 total)
Sunday Awards Breakfast	6 (51 total)
Building Bar Mills Ash Pit	16
Train Excursion	50 (+4)
Operating Slots Available	108
Operations Requests	29
Operators Requesting Multiple sessions	19

By Division

Region/Division	Registrants
MER	7
MWR	1
NFR	1
NER	123
PCR	1
Central New York	14
Garden State	11
Green Mountain	5
HUB	19
Hudson Valley	5
Hudson Berkshire	10
Lakeshores	2
Little Rhody	4
Metro North	6
Garden State	11
Nutmeg	30
Seacoast	9
Sunrise Trail	7

2023 - Long Island

Hotel summary as received to date:

Property	Room Rate	Space	Food Min	Column2
Hyatt Hauppauge	\$ 199.00	\$ 7,800.00	\$ 7,500.00	
Hyatt Huntington	\$ 209.00	\$ 7,500.00	\$ 9,500.00	
Marriott Uniondale	\$ 199.00	\$ 7,500.00	-	Discounts - 25% at 6k, 50% at 7k, 75% at 8k, 100% at 9k

The Marriott represents the best pricing, but is further east on the Island. The summary proposals can be found [here](#).

Spring 2023 – Eastern Canada is planning to host a convention with the Maritime Federation of Model Railroaders the weekend of May 26th 2023. Details to follow.

2024 – Open

2025 Lakeshores

The Lakeshores Division is looking to host a convention in the Rochester area in 2025.

ATTACHMENT #5

AUDIT COMMITTEE REPORT

September 30, 2022

Edward O'Rourke, MMR, President
Northeastern Region of the National Model Railroad Association
36 Nursey Lane
Syracuse, NY 13210

Dear Mr. President:

The Audit Committee, appointed as a standing committee of the Northeastern Region of the National Model Railroad Association (NER), comprised of John Doehring, Thomas Oxnard, MMR, and William Barry, (the "Committee"), has audited the financial statements of the NER. These statements were submitted for review by Gerald Covino, NER Treasurer and NER Convention Treasurer, for the fiscal year period comencing July 1, 2021 and ending June 30, 2022.

Documents Provided:

The Treasurer's ledgers for the bank accounts, investment account and PayPal account were provided along with additional reports categorizing revenue and expenses for various aspects of NER business, such as the Coupler. A budget vs. actual report was provided, which also summarized total assets of the NER at the end of the fiscal year.

Account statements were provided for the region's TD Bank checking account, the convention checking account also maintained at TD Bank and the investment account held by Edward Jones. Account statements were not provided for the PayPal account that is utilized to receive funds from the online convention registration system, pay fees for the registration system and accept donations electronically.

Review:

The Committee's review was based on the provided documents. The Committee cannot comment on information that was not provide to it for review.

Total revenue earned during fiscal 2022 included \$17,378.18 in the general checking account and \$34,665.87 in the convention account. The Committee confirmed 100% of the revenue earned.

Total expenses incurred during the fiscal year were \$14,220.47 in the general checking account and \$26,479.25 in the convention account. The Committee confirmed 100% of the expenses incurred.

The investment account had a starting balance of \$62,392.29 and an ending balance of \$58,107.81. The reduction in the balance was due to market fluctuations and fees. No checking account monies were added to the investment account.

The PayPal account had a balance of \$2,356.17. It was noted by the Committee that the PayPal balance is generally transferred to the convention account prior each convention in order to pay for convention expenses.

In summary, the Committee verified the value of the assets on hand, which includes cash accounts and investment accounts, as of June 30, 2022, to be in the amount of \$71, 808.31.

Opinion:

In the Committee's opinion, the financial statements as referred to above and known by the Treasurer present fairly, in all material aspects, the financial position of the Northeastern Region of the National Model Railroad Association (the "Region") as of June 30, 2022. The Committee further concluded that the Treasurer in general, faithfully executed the responsibilities described in Article IV, Section 14 and Article V, Section 4 of the NER By-laws dated March 2018 and Section 10 of the NER Executive Handbook, dated October 2016.

Recommendations:

The Audit Committee noted that the executive handbook appears out of date. The Committee recommends that the BOD review and revise the by-laws and Section 8 and 10 of the executive handbook to better reflect the NER Treasurer and Convention Treasurer processes and procedures as they are currently implemented and in regards to how the Convention Treasurer now handles the convention revenue and expenses instead of the local convention committee.

The Audit Committee only reviewed the investment account balances. The Investment Committee, as specified by Article V, Section 9, will need to perform an annual review of the investments in regards to their performance and how they are invested.

John Doehring

Audit Committee Chairman

Thomas Oxnard

Audit Committee Member

William Barry

Audit Committee Member

ATTACHMENT #6

COMMUNICATIONS REPORT

Board of Director's Meeting, October 2, 2022
 Communications Report – Constant Contact
 Submitted by Chuck Diljak

Table 1: Email history since last NER Board of Director's meet.

-14 emails: 3 - NER News, 3 - Renewal Reminders, 3 - Welcome to the NMRA, 5 - Connecticut Yankee

-The bounce rate for CT Yankee 5 was high. The increase from the July NER News is entirely due to Roadrunner email addresses. Not all members with Roadrunner addresses bounced, however. The email was resent to those members to determine if this was a fluke or if further action is needed. After resending, some members opened the email and none rebounded. If this did not succeed, the action to take would have been to contact Constant Contact ISP Relations Team to work with Roadrunner to resolve the issue.

-The bounce rate for CT Yankee 6 showed a slight increase. There were five email addresses for MyFairpoint.net that came back as undeliverable. A resend to those contacts also came back as undeliverable. FairPoint is now part of Consolidated Communications. Perhaps this is the cause of the issue. All five are in the Seacoast or Green Mountain Divisions. The CT Yankee 7 email did not bounce for these contacts, so the issue appears to be resolved without any action taken.

-Click rates are higher for July NER News due to the new issue of *NER Coupler* being posted to the website

-Second July NER News was sent to new members because membership reports were received very late on July 23 due to processing issues within the NER. I discovered a different way of handling this in the future without copying the last email and sending it as I did here.

Time Sent ↓	Campaign Name	Sends	Opens	Clicks	Bounces	Unsubscribes
Sun, Sep 11, 2022, 8:30 PM	Renewal Reminder 2022-09	26	18 69%	5 19%	0 0%	0 0%
Sun, Sep 11, 2022, 8:29 PM	Welcome 2022-09	2	1 50%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%
Fri, Sep 9, 2022, 4:00 AM	CT Yankee 7	2,281	1,117 50%	56 3%	43 2%	3 1%
Thu, Sep 1, 2022, 9:12 AM	CT Yankee 6	2,285	1,137 51%	66 3%	53 2%	2 1%
Thu, Aug 25, 2022, 4:00 AM	NER News - Aug 2022	2,289	1,311 58%	149 7%	43 2%	0 0%
Wed, Aug 17, 2022, 2:29 PM	CT Yankee 5	2,292	1,162 53%	72 3%	84 4%	3 1%
Sun, Aug 7, 2022, 2:27 PM	Renewal Reminder 2022-08	52	33 65%	5 10%	1 2%	0 0%
Sun, Aug 7, 2022, 2:26 PM	Welcome 2022-08	4	3 75%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%
Sat, Jul 23, 2022, 4:00 PM	NER News - Jul 2022 - New Members	5	3 60%	2 40%	0 0%	0 0%
Sat, Jul 23, 2022, 9:00 AM	Renewal Reminder 2022-07	32	20 67%	1 3%	2 6%	0 0%
Sat, Jul 23, 2022, 9:00 AM	Welcome 2022-07	5	2 40%	1 20%	0 0%	0 0%
Fri, Jul 22, 2022, 6:00 PM	NER News - Jul 2022	2,345	1,317 57%	319 14%	42 2%	2 1%
Thu, Jul 14, 2022, 11:03 AM	CT Yankee 4	2,344	1,137 49%	66 3%	43 2%	0 0%
Fri, Jul 1, 2022, 4:00 AM	CT Yankee 3.5	2,348	1,168 51%	52 2%	38 2%	1 1%

Table 2: Number of contacts in Constant Contact.

-Reviewed the email history of 368 non-members, who were never NER members. 59 contacts were deleted because they did not open any emails in their history.

Description	Prior Board Report		Current Board Report		Difference
Total NER Members		1504		1484	-20
Less Members without email addresses	160		151		-9
Less Members sharing email addresses	12	172	12	163	0
NER Members in Constant Contact		1332		1321	-11
Subscribed members	1281		1270		-11
Unsubscribed members	51		51		0
NER Members in Constant Contact		1332		1321	-11
NonMembers in Constant Contact		367		312	-55
Life members not in NER		17		17	0
Ex-NER Members in Constant Contact		683		683	0
Total Contacts		2399		2333	-66

ATTACHMENT #7

EASTERN DIRECTOR REPORT

Erich Whitney
5 Wilson Ave
Derry, NH 03038
ecwhitney@icloud.com
(603) 548-8734 (cell)

NER Board of Directors:

I do not have any new items to report since our meeting at The Connecticut Yankee convention.

I would like to continue the conversation we had about the role of NER Area Directors. I had asked the question about how this role as area director may need to change because of the division superintendents now sitting directly on the NER board. Another way of looking at this is, "What can/should area directors do to help their assigned divisions?", and likewise, "What can division superintendents do to help their assigned area directory?", in the context of service to the region and the divisions.

I know that in the past, the area director's role seemed to be to attend division events and bubble up issues to the region where appropriate and similarly, bring information to the divisions about region activities and anything from National of note. I think this historical role has changed and I'd like to see if we can better define the area directory role going forward.

Respectfully Submitted,

Erich Whitney

ATTACHMENT #8

CENTRAL NEW YORK DIVISION

Submitted September 20, 2022 by Drew James, CNY Superintendent

In July we held our annual picnic which was hosted by Jim Heidt. Jim's beautiful HO scale Ogdensburg & Norwood railroad was on display to our members and guests. In honor of Jim's long and outstanding service to the division, our service award was renamed the "Jim Heidt MOW Service Award" at the event. Despite the hot weather we had a large turnout for the picnic.

In August the division held a train watching event at a local hot spot. We grilled up the hot dogs and burgers left over from the picnic. A dozen members of the division and several spouses attended the NER convention. We have events planned for October and November of this year.

We have transitioned our email from the mailchimp tool to a Google group. This makes it easier for officers to communicate with the division. As part of this transition, we added the email addresses of the Southern Tier Division and are now inviting them to all our events. It is too soon to determine if any STD members will attend our events.

As a challenge, our website is out of date due to the unavailability of our webmaster. Another member has started to make a few updates and hopefully we are able to get it current. Our web tool is old and we will be considering a rehosting and development of a new website.

ATTACHMENT #9

GARDEN STATE DIVISION Submitted by Superintendent Mark Morwitz

Report to NER Board of Directors

October 2, 2022

- GSD Board meetings
 - a. a meeting was held on June 25, preparing for the Summer Meet
 - b. a meeting was held on September 11, preparing for the Fall Meet
 - c. The next scheduled board meeting is to be January 14
- 2. Achievement Program
 - a. No new certificates were completed during this period
 - b. List of individuals known to be working on certificates:
 - i. Tom Wortman - cars
 - ii. Jim Homoki - civil
 - iii. Bob Dennis - scenery
 - iv. Mark Moritz - Chief Dispatcher
 - v. Scott Gothe - Author
 - vi. Jim Walsh - Author
- 3. Membership Events
 - a. Summer meet
 - i. Held on July 23 at the Model Railroad Club, Inc., in Union
 - ii. Included two clinics, one on building structures with paper and card and one about history and operations at the Model Railroad Club
 - b. Fall meet
 - i. To be held on October 8 at the Hope, NJ Community Center.
 - ii. Will include two clinics and a four layout tours.
 - iii. One clinic will be on the Salt Mining Industry, and another on installing a CTC system on a home layout.
- 4. Whistlepost
 - a. Summer issue came out in July.
 - b. Fall issue is due out in October.
- 5. Membership
 - a. Membership count has been stable.

**HUB DIVISION
NER Regional Quarterly Report**

Overview Start of Third Quarter 2022

Our year starting 2022-2023, in good strength with multiple modular displays. And look forward 2022-2023 year with success and additional modular events, holiday dinner, bringing back Spring TRAINing April 2023 (Manchester-by-the Sea, MA), Conway Train excursion June 2023, and our Railfun activities nights.

Our New England Model Train Expo (NEMTE) is moving forward with vendors and modular layout signing up and looks promising.

We have more planned for the upcoming year....

Membership

Our membership Chair is planning ideas for retainage, special membership incentives, marketing, to be introduced in the year to come, details to follow.

Division Financials

HUB Division is pleased to report that our division finances are in good shape and stable for coming year.

Respectfully submitted,
Manny Escobar
HUB Division, Inc. el Presidente
2 October 2022

ATTACHMENT #11

HUDSON-BERKSHIRE DIVISION

**Report to NER
2 October 2022**

Following our Summer break, we resumed in-person meetings in September with a visit to Joe Kavanaugh's large scale layout. The weather was perfect for riding trains around his two + miles of track (real, not scale) around his property in Lake Luzerne.

In October we'll be holding a clinic in Malta and in November a layout visit to Don Klose's fun 0 Scale layout in Schenectady.

Planning is already underway for our December 4th Great Train Extravaganza in Albany. Our venue, the New York State Convention Center, is getting more and more expensive. The state significantly raised their prices last year and already informed us of further increases next year. So, early 2023 we'll need to start researching other possibilities.

This will be my last Report. Our elections will be held in November and at least one great candidate has stepped up to run for President. (As previously reported, after several terms as Vice President and President, I will not be running again.)

Irwin D. Nathanson,
President

ATTACHMENT #12

LAKESHORES DIVISION

Third Quarter--2022 Report for NER-BOD

Membership--Jim Fairbanks

As of August 21, 2022 the Lakeshores Division had 88 members with dues up-to-date and 2 members past due.

Finance--John Becker

As of August 31, 2022 the Key Bank account balance was \$2,924.69. There was \$25.23 in petty cash. Total Division funds were \$2,949.92.

Executive Committee

The Executive Committee last met on Wednesday, September 7, 2022 via Zoom to arrange for train show staffing, to plan activities for the general membership, and to discuss 2025 NER Convention, proposed By Laws changes, and upcoming officer election. Minutes are available on request. The next meeting will be on Wednesday, October 5, 2022 also via Zoom.

General Membership Meets

The Lakeshores Summer Picnic was held on Sunday, August 20, 2022 at Dave and Midge Durr's home. It also included a members only swap meet. The Genesee-N-Ontario (GnO) Model N-Gineers set up a large operations-oriented layout in the Durrs' garage for the weekend; Lakeshores Division modules were included in the layout. Jeff Faust, a member of both groups, coordinated the layout set-up and operations. There were 30 attendees.

On Sunday afternoon, September 18, 2022 a Train Watching Picnic was held at Lion Park in Batavia, NY. The venue is located at the ruling grade of the former NYC, now CSX, New York to Chicago mainline. There were 10 attendees.

Season 2 of the "Lakeshores Build-it Series", our version of "Modeling with the Masters" began on Wednesday, September 21, 2022. Jim DeMarco, MMR leads the weekly clinics at his home in Kendall, NY. The current project is scratch-building a wooden reefer.

An "Op around the Clock" (OATC) operation weekend, organized by Ed O'Connell, is scheduled for Saturday and Sunday, October 29 and 30. Ned Spiller MMR, Jim DeMarco MMR, Gordon and Jeanne Spalty, Ron Stacy, and the Rochester Model Railroad Club are the participating layout owners. The event is open to all NMRA members.

The last in-person meet of the year and the Lakeshores Annual Business Meeting will be held on Saturday, November 12, 2022 at the Lehigh Valley Railroad Museum in Shortsville, NY. There will be a tour of the Manchester roundhouse site following the meet. This is an election year for the Division, and there are candidates for all elected positions.

Train Shows

The second annual Hemlock Train Show was held on Saturday and Sunday, September 24 and 24, 2022. The Lakeshores Division had a promotional table that included Jeff Faust's Inglenook switching layout. Some of the Lakeshores T-TRAK modules were included with a GnO exhibit at the same show.

Other scheduled 2022 shows include Rush Fall Festival (October 1 and 2), The Great Batavia Train Show (October 16), and the RIT Tiger Tracks Train Show (December 10 and 11).

BataviaRPM

The Second Annual Batavia RPM (Railroad Prototype Modelers) Meet sponsored by the Lakeshores Division and the Genesee Society of Model Engineers will be held on Sunday, March 26, 2023, in conjunction with The Great Batavia Train Show.

Achievement Program--Ned Spiller

Jim Fairbanks has received Merit Awards for an Erie Boxcab Diesel and Slug. Paperwork has been submitted to National for the AP Scenery Award.

Communications--Ray, Howard, Ed O'Connell, Dave Durr

The most recent issue of the *Lake Shores Limited* was published in July. The next issue is due at the end of this month. The *Member Marketplace* is published monthly if there are submissions. The Division's Facebook site, webpage, and calendars are up-to-date.

Member Publications

Jim Fairbanks' article "Resolving Problems: Building a Vintage Freight Car Kit" was published in the Summer 2022 edition of the *NER Coupler*.

Respectfully submitted,
David P. Durr, Superintendent
September 28, 2022

ATTACHMENT #13

LITTLE RHODY DIVISION

Interim Report 24 September 2022

As we often discover we are, Little Rhody Division has been busy during the past months. The year 2022 kicked off with a power point review of the Chester & Becket modular layout by Mike Tylick of the Hub Division (and friend of LRD) – sort of a “farewell tour”. This was followed by a presentation by Steve Erickson on Preserving Your Layout and planning for the future. February brought Justin Maguire into the limelight with his presentation of how he resurrected a 20-year old module and brought it more up-to-date.

Following this, Superintendent Sue Osberg presented an overview of the modules of Little Rhody’s *Rhode Island & Old Colony* Modular T-Trak layout. We hit the road in March and brought the RI&OC as well as the Harry Potter and Polar Express layouts to the Cumberland, RI layout as part of our annual community outreach program. Folks from all over northern RI came to see the layouts and talk model railroading. We brought in a few potential new members from this endeavor.

April brought us Steve Boothroyd, a former LRD member currently living in northern NYS to present his Layouts through the Years and related topics to us. Steve is always interesting and has beautiful layouts and structures to share.

In May, we hit the road again, this time to go even further north in RI to Harrisville to their wonderful library which was all decorated in advance of our showing up. Again, a great turnout and some new members from this trip as well.

In June we held our Annual Dinner and Elections with Awards. At this time, I was able to present the first Henry Pierce Memorial Award for Achievement to LRD’s first MMR, Justin Maguire, MMR #597. Also, certificates of appreciation went out to retiring Chief Clerk Dick Nagle and his wife for their years of service to Little Rhody. Dick is still active, but no longer taking notes of all our meetings.

Summer brought the hot weather – so hot we had to cancel our July picnic at the Connecticut Eastern Railroad Museum. Our planning meeting in August was very productive with much being discussed and plans made for the coming months.

Our first meeting in September had a familiar theme – “What did you do over the summer?” Assistant Superintendent David Kiley shared his experience converting one of his G-scale locomotives to battery power. Steve Erickson also presented his power point on “Coal, Cod, and Cash” about an independent railroad that ran between Newport, RI and Fall River, MA

At our October 1 meeting, we will be doing a final tune-up and adjustments to the T-Trak modules in preparation for our November Train show (Nov 6) in Coventry, RI. Also, a Henry Pierce Memorial Award for Achievement will be presented to Little Rhody’s newest Master Model Railroader, Tom Emmett #714. Also, since the July picnic was cancelled, we will be holding a pot-luck “Octoberfest” luncheon that day.

Sue Osberg
Superintendent, Little Rhody Division, NER, NMRA