Northeastern Region, NMRA
BOARD of DIRECTORS MEETING
01/14/24

Meeting conducted over Internet via Zoom.

Present:

Officers		Directors		NER Staff & Guests	
President:	Ed O'Rourke	Northern:	Tom Oxnard	Coupler editor:	Chris Carfaro
Vice President:		Eastern:	Erich Whitney	Webmaster:	Jim Seroskie
Secretary:	Jeff Paston	Western:	Ed Olszewski	Asst. Webmaster	
Treasurer:		Southern:	Ciro Compagno		
Asst. to President:		Central NY:	Drew James	Communications:	Chuck Diljak
Past President:		Eastern Canada:		Operations:	Ed O'Connell
		Garden State:	Mark Moritz		
		Green Mt.:	Erich Golschneider	2025 Convention Committee	Tage Erickson
		HUB:	Manny Escobar		
		Hudson Valley:	Henry Kramer John Noll- Sec/Treas		
		Hudson-Berkshire:	Ben Maggio		
		Lakeshores:	David Durr		
		Little Rhody:			
		Metro-North:	Scott Russell		
		Nutmeg:	Art Dutra Ron Pelletier		
		Seacoast:	Glenn Mitchell		
		Southern Tier:			
		Sunrise Trail:	Dennis DeAngelis		

Not present: Past President John Doehring; Vice President Dave Insley; Eastern Canada Div. President Greg Williams; Little Rhody Supt. Sue Osberg; Asst. Webmaster Rick Mazzoli.

BOARD of DIRECTORS MEETING

1. Meeting call to order: 7:07 pm EDT -- President O'Rourke

A. Additional agenda items? Approval of the agenda. Approved

B. Moment of silence for members who passed: Mark Harlow, NER Office Manager

C. Approval of Previous Minutes:

i. 10/01/23 minutes (Draft #2) Mark Moritz Tom Oxnard 2nd

D. Emergency vote of BOD to approve donation in memory of Mark Harlow. Mark passed away on Nov. 13, a day after his 69th birthday. A memorial service was conducted December 9 at the Charles River Masonic Lodge in Medway, MA.

i. President O'Rourke requested approval of $75 donation as NER's "charity of choice" in memory of Mark Harlow to the Masonic Lodge where Mark had been active. This required a majority vote of BOD, which was conducted by President O'Rourke on Dec. 1 via email. Approve: 12; Disapprove: 1; Abstain: 1; No response: 5. Carried.

2. STANDARD REPORTS

A. President's Report

i. Full report in ATTACHMENT #1

ii. President O'Rourke requested response by Friday, Jan. 19 to let him know whether attending dinner at Springfield on Jan. 26. Cost is $40.

iii. President O'Rourke noted that Nominating Committee consists of four area directors. Both President O'Rourke and VP Insley have indicated they will run again.

iv. Erich Whitney has volunteered to be office manager, so his Eastern Director position may be open should Erich be appointed as Office Manager.

v. President O'Rourke said he is still looking for an assistant Treasurer

B. Vice President's Report

i. Full report in ATTACHMENT #2

ii. VP Insley noted that nominations are urgently needed for the 2024 Spate Award. His report said to send nominations to him by March 1. A reminder will also be sent out in February.

C. Treasurer's Report – Gerry Covino

i. Full report in ATTACHMENT #3

D. Secretary's Report

i. Secretary Paston reported that he received the required annual Certificates of Membership from each NER division and forwarded them to NMRA Administrator Jenny Hendricks on Dec. 2.

E. NER Convention Committee Report – Dave Insley

i. Full report in ATTACHMENT #4

ii. Moved by Glenn Mitchell, seconded by Dave Durr -- to accept proposal from Seacoast Div. To host 2025 NER Convention.

F. Achievement Program Report – Bill Brown

G. Coupler Editor's Report

i. Full report in ATTACHMENT #17

H. Communications - Chuck Diljak

i. Full report in ATTACHMENT #5

I. Webmaster's Report

i. Full report in ATTACHMENT #6

ii. Discussion by Dave Durr and Webmaster Seroskie regarding Lakeshores '24 convention material on Website.

iii. Webmaster Seroskie reported NER Website is $134 under budget than what was proposed.

J. Office Manager Report – Erich Whitney

i. Full report in ATTACHMENT #7

ii. Erich Whitney said it is "going to be a bumpy ride" and patience will be needed during shift to new online database system for NMRA. He said reality is that the NMRA database files keep changing every month. Erich said the "good news" is that he is getting responses from NMRA HQ during his attempt to sort out database information. President O'Rourke expressed appreciation to Erich for his efforts in recovering files from Mark Harlow's computer.

3. OLD BUSINESS

4. NEW BUSINESS

A. With the passing of NER Office Manager Mark Harlow, President O'Rourke notes the NER has no systematic storage of its records.

i. Need to determine method and location in which to store NER records.

ii. Jeff Paston reported that he was given our late Secretary Chip Faulter's files, which are now "stored" in Jeff's computer.

iii. Scott Russell commented that all NER files should be placed in the "Cloud." President O'Rourke suggested the Google system. Scott recommended using Windows One Dive. Ciro Compagno suggested using Dropbox because of its availability on all platforms. Mark Harlow had been using Micro Pro storage program.

iv. Manny Escobar said HUB is seeking a cloud platform. He noted HUB department heads should ensure having an assistant to maintain continuity. Erich Whitney and Gerry Covino are looking into backup for HUB files. It was noted that best to have multiple people in the Division with access to files.

5. AREA DIRECTOR REPORTS

A. Western

i. Ed Olszewski said he sent note to other area directors seeking input on who is running or not running again for office.

B. Northern

i. Tom Oxnard said he is spending time on preparing 2025 convention.

C. Eastern

i. Full report in ATTACHMENT #8

D. Southern

6. DIVISION DIRECTOR REPORTS

A. Central NY

i. Full report in ATTACHMENT #9

ii. Drew James reported on meeting to determine facilitating National NMRA convention in Rochester in 2029.

B. Eastern Canada

i. Jeff Hanke of Nutmeg Division will be presenting Zoom clinic on scratch building structure on Jan. 18 at 8 PM ADT / 7 PM EST.

C. Garden State

i. Full report in ATTACHMENT #10

D. Green Mountain

E. HUB

i. Full report in ATTACHMENT #11

F. Hudson Valley

i. Full report in ATTACHMENT #16

ii. Supt. Henry Kramer said Division is focusing on establishing new leadership after long tenured leaders stepped down.

G. Hudson-Berkshire

i. Full report in ATTACHMENT #12

H. Lakeshores

i. Full report in ATTACHMENT #13

I. Little Rhody

i. Full report in ATTACHMENT #14

J. Metro North

i Scott Russell reported about aging membership who are "snowbirds," making meetings during winter lightly attended. He also said the Division is split between New York and Connecticut counties, favoring meetings more activity in Connecticut.

J. Nutmeg

K. Seacoast

i. Full report in ATTACHMENT #15

L. Southern Tier

M. Sunrise Trail

i. Dennis DeAngelis thanked Chris Carfaro for creating recruiting tri-fold used at Cannonball convention.

ii. He reported that weekly Wednesday Zoom clinics are still being offered.

7. Next meeting: Sunday, April 14 at 7 PM EDT / 8 PM ADT

8. Meeting adjourned 8:37 PM EST

Moved by Dave Durr, seconded by Ciro Compagno. Carried

ATTACHMENT 1

President's Report -- President Ed O'Rourke

January 14, 2024

Positives:

- I was pleased to be able to present the NMRA President's Award in person the Harold Russell, MMR. His family had a very nice reception in his honor with Lakeshores members.
- 2024 NERX planning is under way. March 18 – 21, 2024 6:00 – 11:00 PM
- Amherst Railway Society Train Show. NER will host a Region dinner Friday night.
- 2023 Cannonball Ball Express was successful.
- 2024 will be in Rochester – Lakeshores Division. Planning is well underway. Hoping to have Registration open in time for Springfield.
- 2025 will be in New Hampshire-Seacoast
- Central NY, Lakeshores investigating possible National Convention in Rochester 2029. Also working with Western NY Division, NFR. A committee has been formed and a proposal to be presented to the NMRA BOD is being prepared.
- Election of officers will take place in 2024.

Challenges:

- NER Office Manager Mark Harlow passed away suddenly in the fall. We are currently seeking a replacement. Eastern Director Erich Whitney has been filling in:
    - Implementation of new NMRA membership reporting system has been challenging. Erich is working to decipher the system and repair bugs.
- Ken May is stepping down as Region Contest Chair – need to find a replacement to work with Ken on transition
- Still seeking Assistant Treasurer/Convention Treasurer.
- Oswego and Jefferson counties in upstate NY remain a concern.
- Southern Tier Division has not been able to get a leadership structure in place.
- Officers and Directors insurance for the Board and Division officers continues to be a concern. I have not heard of any result of discussions at the National level. I don't believe we can expect any financial assistance.

ATTACHMENT 2

NER Vice President Report

14-January 2024

Spate Award

We need nominations for the 2024 Spate Award. Please submit any nominations by March 1. Nominations should come from Division Superintendents.

The 2023 Spate Award was given at the 2023 NER Convention to Joanne Sweeney of the Little Rhody Division. The award was delivered to Sue Osberg after the convention and will be presented to Joanne at a future time. I did request Sue take a picture for The Coupler.

Springfield

Springfield is 2 weeks away! We are trying to focus the NMRA Booth on membership and limiting the gatherings of members in the booth. Please plan to stop by and say hi, but also plan to go to the NMRA Member Gathering area on the second floor of the Better Living Center where these is space to gather and meet new and old friends.

Schedule

Here is the schedule to date. Empty slots will be filled by representatives from the NMRA National BOD and Department Heads.

	1/27	1/28
	SATURDAY	**SUNDAY**
8:00 AM		CLOSED
8:30 AM		
9:00 AM	1: Dave Insley 2: Ed Olszewski 3: Ron Pelletier	1: Dave Insley
9:30 AM	4: Mike Wheeler	2: Ed Olszewski
10:00 AM		3: Ron Pelletier
10:30 AM		4:
11:00 AM		
11:30 AM	1: James Mayo 2: Ken May 3: Drew James	1: Chris Carfaro 2: Drew James 3: Ed O'Rourke
12:00 PM	4:	4:
12:30 PM		

1:00 PM	1: Chris Carfaro 2: Ben Maggi 3: Ed O'Connell 4:	1:James Mayo 2:Ed O'Connell 3: 4:
1:30 PM		
2:00 PM		
2:30 PM		
3:00 PM	1: Dave Insley 2: Dave Durr 3: Jim DeMarco 4:	1: Dave Insley 2: Ed O'Rourke 3: 4:
3:30 PM		
4:00 PM		
4:30 PM		

The Google sheet (which looks a little better, can be found here:

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1YVmO9lUxHYqgnZT5GqlbABwCwyVkpQ0FU0Iv23vXzYc/edit#gid=0

Dinner
Contact Ed O'Rourke if interested in attending.

ATTACHMENT 3

TREASURER'S REPORT

Northeastern Region - NMRA
BUDGET vs ACTUAL (Cash Basis)
Fiscal Year 7/1/2023 to 6/30/2024

Balances as of 1/12/2024

REVENUE	Budget	Actual	%
Subscriptions - Coupler	$ 7,800.00	$ 3,906.65	50.1%
Investment Fund Transfer	1,000.00	0.00	
Sponsorship - Coupler	0.00	0.00	
NMRA Dues Rebate	1,900.00	913.23	48.1%
NMRA Dues Rebate AP 27%	700.00	337.77	48.3%
Donations	500.00	20.70	4.1%
Other - Spate Award	60.00	64.25	107.1%
Convention Revenue	1,372.00	(2,823.63)	-205.8%
Planned Revenue	1,000.00	(2,845.62)	
Website Reimbursement	372.00	21.99	
Total Revenue	**$ 13,332.00**	**$ 2,418.97**	18.1%
EXPENSES			
Program Expenses	**$ 10,760.00**	**$ 4,954.27**	46.0%
Coupler	$ 7,400.00	$3,976.79	
NMRA Dues Rebates Distribution	1,900.00	913.23	
Achievement Program	400.00	0.00	
Membership Development Program	1,000.00	0.00	
Spate Award	60.00	64.25	
Business Expenses	**835.00**	**107.60**	12.9%
President's Awards	50.00	33.20	
Legal - NJ Business Registration	35.00	33.00	
Regional Banner	0.00	0.00	
Business Expenses	350.00	0.00	
Other - Election Expenses	300.00	0.00	
Other - Credit Card/PayPal Fees	100.00	41.40	
Contingency Fund	**100.00**	**75.00**	**75.0%**
Miscellaneous		75.00	
Communication Expenses	**1,401.00**	**891.94**	63.7%
Constant Contact	400.00	434.70	
Web Hosting Expense	0.00	0.00	
Region & NERx Domain Fees	34.00	0.00	
Region - WordPress Tools	377.00	148.00	
SG Site Scanner	0.00	0.00	
Division Domain Fees	218.00	63.97	
NER Conventions - Website Expense	372.00	245.27	
Domain Fees	22.00	21.99	
WordPress Tools	350.00	223.28	
Total Expenses	**$ 13,096.00**	**$6,028.81**	46.0%
Net Operating Revenue/Expense	**$ 236.00**	**$ (3,609.84)**	-1529.6%

Saturday, October 7, 2023

NER Investment Reserve Account (Edward Jones)		**$ 64,294.85**
Operations Reserve	$ 62,929.92	
Life Equity Fund	$ 74.00	
Spate Award	$ 1,290.94	
NER Convention Account Balance		**$ 1,244.49**
PayPal Account Balance		**$ 648.18**
Regional Checking Account Balance		**$ 2,015.96**
Dues Rebate (Southern Tier)	$ 124.83	
Coupler Ledger	$ 3,853.47	
General Funds	$ (1,962.34)	
Total NER FUNDS All Accounts		**$ 68,203.48**

Printed: 1/12/2024. 4:23 PM

Budget Approved and Authorized By NER Board 7/10/2023

NER Convention - 2023
Cannonball Express Revenue
Budget vs Actual

Item	Number	Budget	Price	Actual Registered	Total
Early Reg	52	$ 4,420.00	85	42	$ 3,570.00
Early Reg Combo	76	$ 14,440.00	190	50	$ 9,500.00
Regular Reg	16	$ 1,520.00	95	10	$ 950.00
Regular Reg Combo	6	$ 1,200.00	200	5	$ 1,000.00
At Door	2	$ 200.00	100	0	$ -
Non Member	2	$ 40.00	20	3	$ 60.00
Significant Other	15	$ 300.00	20	9	$ 180.00
Sig Other Combo	18	$ 2,610.00	145	9	$ 1,305.00
Family Member	1	$ 20.00	20	0	$ -
Family Combo	1	$ 145.00	145	0	$ -
Thursday Welcome	5	$ 125.00	25	6	$ 150.00
Saturday Banquet	15	$ 1,200.00	80	6	$ 480.00
Sunday	6	$ 270.00	45	0	$ -
		$ -			$ -
Clinic		$ -			$ -
M&T - Bar Mills Kit	10	$ 250.00	25	15	$ 375.00
M&T - Intro to Arduino's	15	$ -	0	14	$ -
		$ -			$ -
		$ -			$ -
		$ -			$ -
Tour		$ -			$ -
Grand Central Station	40	$ 1,800.00	45	23	$ 1,035.00
		$ -			$ -
		$ -			$ -
One Day Admission (at door)	8	$ 360.00	45	7	$ 315.00
Thursday		*$ -*	*45*	*1*	*$ 45.00*
Friday		*$ -*	*45*	*1*	*$ 45.00*
Saturday			*45*	*5*	*$ 225.00*
Totals from Both Databases					**$ 18,920.00**
Cancellation fees/Donations					$ 21.00
Vendor Tables (2-days)		$ 4,500.00	$ 50.00	3	$ 150.00
Refund Vendor tables					$ (150.00)
Totals		$ 33,400.00			$ 18,941.00

Total Attendees	132
Total Registrations	114

NER Convention - 2023
Cannonball Express Expenses
Budget vs Actual

Description	Qty or Cost	Budget	Projected Actual	Registered Qty	Actual Qty	Actual Paid Expenses
Banquet (food guarantee)		$10,000.00	$12,500.00			
Thursday Reception	$ 21.25		*$ 1,402.76*	*66*		$ 1,465.04
Coffee Break & Cookies	$ 24.10		*$ 1,687.00*	*70*	70	$ 1,687.50
Saturday Buffet	$ 80.00		*$ 5,600.00*	*70*	69	$ 5,520.00
Sunday Awards Buffet	$ 43.75		*$ 2,800.00*	*64*	65	$ 2,843.75
Total Paid Food			***$ 11,489.76***			$ 11,516.29
Room Rental						
Forum		$ 7,500.00	$ 7,500.00			$ -
Molley		$ 2,812.50	$ 2,812.50			$ 1,875.00
Hofsta		$ 3,750.00	$ 3,750.00			$ -
L.I.U/Adelphi		$ -	$ -			$ 2,500.00
Forum Room Discount	100%	$ (7,500.00)	$ (7,500.00)			
Bar Tender & Cashier		$ -	$ -			$ 450.00
AV Charge		$ -	$ -	0		$ 1,875.00
Non-Member	2	$ 40.00	$ 59.85	3		$ 60.00
Clinic Costs						
M&T - Bar Mills Kit	20	$ 200.00	$ -	**15**		**$ 133.49**
M&T - Intro to Arduino's	15	$ -	$ -	14		$ -
Other Events						
Grand Central Station	40	$ 1,800.00	$ 1,035.00	23		$ 1,110.00
Fees						
Technology (Microsoft 365 & McAfee)		$ 80.00	$ 79.99			$ 139.98
Planet Registration		$ 517.20	$ 450.00			$ 479.40
PayPal		$ 532.13	$ 350.00			$ 394.34
Square		$ 100.00	$ 50.00			$ 15.33
Banner		$ 86.72	$ 100.00			$ 104.94
Promotion		$ 200.00	$ 150.00			$ -
Website		$ 25.00	$ 100.00			$ 186.27
Supplies & Postage		$ 50.00	$ 25.00			$ 53.79
Program Book		$ 200.00	$ 150.00			$ 298.16
Hospitality		$ -	$ -			$ -
Registration Expenses		$ 350.00	$ 250.00			$ 395.63
Registrar's Hotel		$ 796.00	$ 796.00			$ -
Registrar's Hotel Room Discount		$ (796.00)	$ (597.00)			$ 199.00
Total Expenses		$20,743.55	$22,061.34			$21,786.62
Total Gain/Loss		$12,656.46	$ (3,120.34)			$ (2,845.62)

ATTACHMENT 4

NER Convention Committee Report – Dave Insley

14-January 2024

Current Highlights

- 2023 Convention – Cannonball Express 2023 Wrap-up
- 2024 NERx – Planning underway.
- 2024 Convention – RIT Inn and Conference Center finalizing registration.
- 2025 Convention – Concord NH Contract Proposal.

Meetings

Last meeting was held January 8, 2024. Minutes are here.

Next Meeting is April 8, 2024 at 7:30pm on the NMRA Interchange.

2023 – Cannonball Express - Long Island

Convention is in the books. Financials will come from the Convention Treasurer

Final Numbers

Item	Current
Total Primary Registrations	114
- Early	42
- Early Combo Registration	50
- Regular Registrations	10
- Regular Combo Registrations	5
- At Door	7*
Spouse/Family Registrations	18
- Regular	9
- Combo	9
Non-NMRA Member Fee (Registrations included above)	3
Banquet	6 (70 total)
Thursday Evening Welcome Reception	6 (70 total)
Sunday Awards Breakfast	0 (64 total)
Operating Slots Available	159
Operations Requests	24
Operators Requesting Multiple sessions	17

*One-day registrations

Count by Division

Division	Current
Central New York	5
Garden State	13
Green Mountain	3
HUB	17
Hudson Valley	4
Hudson Berkshire	3
Lakeshores	3
Little Rhody	1
Metro North	9
Nutmeg	5
Seacoast	4
Sunrise Trail	34
Other	13

Survey results for the post-convention can be found here. Feedback was very positive and thanks to all the convention team for a great event.

2024 NERx

NERx 2024 Is scheduled for March 18-21, 2024. Planning has begun, and minutes of the last meeting can be found here.

We are finalizing the clinic schedule, pending final count for the Built It series.

2024 – Lakeshores

Dates are set for September 19-22, 2024. Mark your calendars.

Hotel Registrations are open and the link was provided to the webmaster.

Goal is to have Convention Registrations open for the Springfield show.

Cost Summary:

Early Registration	$85.00
Regular Registration	$95.00
At Door	$100
Banquet	$50
Breakfast	$25
Welcome Reception	$20

Hotel Room Rate is $129 per night.

2025 – **Seacoast**

We have a proposed contract from the Grappone Center in Concord, NH

Highlights

- Proposed Dates – September 18-21
- Room Rate - $139
- Space Costs - $4800
- Food Minimum - $3000
- One Comp Room for every 25 rooms booked

Full contract can be found here.

You can review the full proposal from the Seacoast Division team in report accompanying these minutes.

Please note that the original space costs where $6000. The hotel was not willing to make any concessions, so we decided to postpone the clinic program until Friday morning, thus saving $1200. We will utilize some space available on Thursday and promote other outside activities to create interest.

Possible Joint NER/MER Convention

The New Jersey Division is tentatively scheduled to host the 2025 MER Convention. We have reached out to see if there is any preliminary interest in co-hosting a convention with us. Garden State Division BOD has indicated initial interest. We are targeting 2026.

ATTACHMENT 5

Communications Report – Constant Contact Submitted by Chuck Diljak

Email history since the last NER Board of Directors meeting

- 13 emails: 2 - NER News, 1 – Cannonball Express, 4 - Renewal Reminders, 4 - Welcome to the NMRA, 2 - NERx
- Bounces
    - The December 2023 NER News email had a high number of bounces. However, most of these occurred when the email was sent a second time to those that did not open the email when it was first sent. Whatever the issue was, it appears to have been resolved since the NERx 2024-2 email experienced the same level of bounces as in the past.
    - I have attached a list of the bounces from the last email. I need Membership Chairs from each division to resolve the issues by contacting NMRA HQ with any corrections. If there isn't an issue with the email address, please contact me and I will try resetting it. See "Bounced Members.xlsx" file.

Time Sent ↓	Campaign Name	Sends	Opens	Clicks	Bounces	Unsubscribes
Fri, Jan 5, 2024, 9:06 AM	NERX 2024 - 2	2,281	1,417 64%	78 4%	75 3%	0 0%
Wed, Dec 27, 2023, 9:24 PM	Renewal Reminder 2023-12	59	42 74%	6 11%	2 3%	0 0%
Wed, Dec 27, 2023, 9:23 PM	Welcome 2023-12	16	14 93%	5 33%	1 6%	0 0%
Fri, Dec 1, 2023, 4:02 AM	NER News - Dec 2023	2,227	1,469 77%	127 7%	323 15%	1 1%
Thu, Nov 30, 2023, 8:15 PM	Renewal Reminder 2023-11	48	32 70%	5 11%	2 4%	0 0%
Thu, Nov 30, 2023, 8:12 PM	Welcome 2023-11	6	5 83%	1 17%	0 0%	0 0%
Wed, Nov 1, 2023, 4:01 AM	NERX 2024 - 1	2,241	1,477 68%	50 2%	56 2%	3 1%
Sat, Oct 21, 2023, 3:29 PM	Renewal Reminder 2023-10	43	30 81%	7 19%	6 14%	0 0%
Sat, Oct 21, 2023, 3:28 PM	Welcome 2023-10	7	6 86%	2 29%	0 0%	0 0%
Wed, Oct 4, 2023, 6:55 AM	NER News - Oct 2023	2,247	1,468 67%	200 9%	56 2%	1 1%
Sun, Oct 1, 2023, 10:04 AM	Renewal Reminder 2023-09	32	20 65%	1 3%	1 3%	0 0%
Sun, Oct 1, 2023, 10:01 AM	Welcome 2023-09	2	1 50%	0 0%	0 0%	0 0%
Sun, Oct 1, 2023, 4:00 AM	CBExpress-10	2,249	1,227 56%	39 2%	59 3%	0 0%

Membership Reports

My biggest concern with the last set of membership reports, which contained reports from the old and new membership databases, is the high number of our members that have different email addresses in the two systems. Which is right? I need the Membership Chairs in each of the divisions to help resolve these differences with NMRA HQ. I attached the list. Anything marked with "Yes" in the NER Member column is from the new reports. Anything with "No" is from the old. See "Members with multiple email addresses.xlsx" file. Note that at some point, I will eliminate the email addresses with "No" and if the remaining email address is incorrect, the member will not receive emails from the NER.

Bounced Mailings

Email address	First name	Last name	Phone - home	Street address line 1 - Home	City - Home	State/ Province - Home	Zip/Postal Code - Home	Country - Home	Expires	Member Type	Life Member	Division	Region	NMRA #	Bounce Reason
edward.bliekr@gmail.com	Edward	Blieka`	(718) 810-8126	3324 200TH ST	Bayside	NY	11361-1136	USA	7/31/2024	RM	No	01	21	167833 00	Suspended
steveg22@optonline.net	Stephen	Goldberg	631-549-8796	692 BALFOUR PL	Melville	NY	11747-5251	USA	12/31/2099	LM	Yes	01	21	L04679 00	Suspended
ncsquare-72@gmail.com	Nicholas	Casperaite	(774) 402-1647	135 FAIRVIEW PARK RD	Sturbridge	MA	01566-1500	USA	11/30/2023	ST	No	02	21	171824 00	Suspended
dave@delorey.com	Dave	Delorey	(603) 562-6257	190 PURCHASE ST	Milford	MA	01757-1117	USA	1/31/2024	RM	No	02	21	167882 00	Suspended
therunk17@earthlink.net	Ronald	Fraser	508-366-4599	11 GRANGER RD	Westborough	MA	01581-1716	USA	12/31/2099	LM	Yes	02	21	L01084 00	Suspended
shack@brcom.com	David	Haralambo	781-929-3641	197M BOSTON POST RD W # 346	Marlborough	MA	01752-1840	USA	6/30/2024	RM	No	02	21	142129 00	Blocked
vehilcelegend@gmail.com	Brian	Hartley	(978) 872-4053	39 UPTACK RD	Groveland	MA	01834-1004	USA	1/31/2025	RM	No	02	21	173401 00	Suspended
ekroeker@ma.ultranet.com	Edwin	Kroeker	978-568-0554	4 HICKORY LN	Hudson	MA	01749-2723	USA	12/31/2099	LM	Yes	02	21	L03397 00	Suspended
bridge.reiss@gmail.com	Gary	Reiss	(978) 877-1155	22 BLACKSMITH ROW UNIT C	Groton	MA	01450-4006	USA	1/31/2025	RM	No	02	21	173403 00	Suspended
delbou@sogetel.net	Jean-Franc	Delisle	418-774-6706	496 Rang Saint-joseph	Beauceville	QC	G5X 2C6	CAN	12/31/2099	LF	Yes	03	21	L05560 00	Suspended
jas115@hotmail.com	Joseph	Adamkiewi	(917) 930-1901	10 MARY ST	Belleville	NJ	07109-2339	USA	8/31/2024	RP	No	04	21	173946 00	Suspended
mpaw271@aol.com	Michael	Dawson	(917) 445-7690	271 BIDWELL AVE	Staten Island	NY	10314-3186	USA	3/31/2024	RM	No	04	21	173320 00	Suspended
momo12249@outlook.com	Peter	Delia	(973) 786-4276	6 CLUB RD	Newton	NJ	07860-2705	USA	2/29/2024	RM	No	04	21	173179 00	Suspended
pennsybrat@optonline.net	Robert	Malberti	973-872-4672	40 WORCESTER DR	Wayne	NJ	07470-8400	USA	8/31/2025	RM	No	04	21	105469 00	Suspended
martworld.is@verizon.net	Martin	Salowey	908-754-1973	1332 Chetwynd Ave	Plainfield	NJ	07060-3114	USA	12/31/2024	RM	No	04	21	098821 00	Suspended
peter_schaeffer@hotmail.com	Peter	Schaeffer	(201) 692-2497	151 SAGAMORE RD	Millburn	NJ	07041-2147	USA	1/31/2024	RM	No	04	21	167795 00	Mailbox full
pennyshark2011@aol.com	Charlie	Spino	(201) 230-6878	801 Newcomb Road	Morris Plains	NJ	07950	USA	2/29/2024	RP	No	04	21	173535 00	Suspended
worlda@comcast.net	Charles	Casciotta	(860) 378-4886	52 IRVING ST APT 31	Bristol	CT	06010-4179	USA	7/31/2024	RM	No	05	21	172623 00	Suspended
rachappell@sbcglobal.net	Raymond	Chappell	203-265-0313	31 PARKVIEW RD	Wallingford	CT	06492-3051	USA	12/31/2099	LM	Yes	05	21	L01020 0A	Suspended
bsf1151@yahoo.com	William	Fabiani	203-506-8956	59 SKYVIEW DR	Berlin	CT	06037-2449	USA	10/31/2024	RM	No	05	21	165154 00	Suspended
jgamm@gammlaw.com	John	Gamm	860-633-4219	32 DUTTON PLACE WAY	Glastonbury	CT	06033-2458	USA	1/31/2024	RM	No	05	21	131999 00	Suspended
dekap@att.net	Tom	Kapustyns	203-331-7547	22 S CLIFF ST	Ansonia	CT	06401-3003	USA	11/30/2025	RM	No	05	21	147490 00	Suspended
delight122@charter.net	Donald	Light	413-527-6070	2 POMEROY ST	Easthampton	MA	01027-2720	USA	7/31/2025	RM	No	05	21	166572 00	Suspended
showdirector@amherstrail.org	John	Sacerdote	860-243-3831	65 PROSPECT ST	Bloomfield	CT	06002-3038	USA	3/31/2024	RM	No	05	21	127973 00	Suspended
brian.whiton@snet.net	Brian	Whiton MM	860-604-2038	96 SPRING ST	Windsor Locks	CT	06096-2207	USA	12/31/2099	LM	Yes	05	21	L04399 00	Suspended
lwkrue@cox.net	Louis	Krue	401-333-9744	10 OLD DIAMOND HILL RD APT 258	Cumberland	RI	02864-4613	USA	12/31/2099	LM	Yes	06	21	L00661 00	Suspended
bgrtrainman1@aol.com	Richard	Towle	508-543-2146	6 HASKELL ST	Norton	MA	02766-1832	USA	12/31/2099	LM	Yes	06	21	L00957 0A	Suspended
mcgran1451@twc.net	James	McGrane J	845-225-6772	896 HEATHER LN	Schenectady	NY	12309-5541	USA	8/31/2024	RM	No	07	21	131226 00	Undeliverable
rdcomeau@att.net	Ron	Comeau	(720) 366-1580	145 PLEASANT ST	Rockland	ME	04841-2121	USA	10/31/2024	RM	No	08	21	171680 00	Suspended
lknight@lightthousetechincalsales.com	Lawrence	Knight		55 LAKE ST UNIT 3-8	Nashua	NH	03060-4516	USA	11/30/2023	RM	No	08	21	172727 00	Undeliverable
steve@railwayvillage.org	Steve	Markowitz	207-633-4727	PO BOX 123	Boothbay	ME	04537-0123	USA	6/30/2024	SM	No	08	21	123379 00	Suspended
dowislander@gmail.com	Tim	The Model Moore	Railroad Group (516) 635-3602	PO BOX 286	Center Harbor	NH	03226-0286	USA	6/30/2025	RM	No	08	21	170243 00	Suspended
mikemurf@alum.mit.edu	Michael	Murphy	781-420-5506	593 HANOVER ST	Manchester	NH	03104-5307	USA	12/31/2099	LF	Yes	08	21	L04751 00	Suspended
rselberg@gmail.com	Rob	Selberg	207-272-0390	14 RAY ST	Portland	ME	04103-4370	USA	8/31/2025	RM	No	08	21	159504 00	Vacation / Aut
wbrandt@hvc.rr.com	William	Brandt	845-768-2262	14 EVERGREEN LN	Woodstock	NY	12498-1621	USA	7/31/2024	RM	No	09	21	047878 00	Suspended
morris27@nyc.rr.com	John	Morris	(212) 721-9247	49 BAKER RD	Kerhonkson	NY	12446-1701	USA	8/31/2024	RM	No	09	21	172709 00	Suspended
ptartagilia_976@comcast.net	Paul	Tartaglia	845-621-3184	33 PENNEBROOK LN	Carmel	NY	10512-5302	USA	10/31/2024	RM	No	09	21	162936 00	Suspended
ewhite6@hvc.rr.com	Earl	White	845-339-7391	118 ST JOSEPHS HILL RD	Forestburgh	NY	12777-6225	USA	5/31/2024	RM	No	09	21	159610 00	Mailbox full
paul.bertan@verizon.net	Paul Beers	Bertan	315-487-5303	6215 AIRPORT RD	Syracuse	NY	13209-9754	USA	12/31/2099	LM	Yes	10	21	L00757 00	Suspended
jomadabe2@verizon.net	David	Berube	315-638-4812	33 W Oneida St	Baldwinsville	NY	13027-1134	USA	1/31/2024	RM	No	10	21	108424 0A	Suspended
shpenck@gmail.com	Sherwood	Enck	(607) 592-4554	211 HOMEWOOD DR	Clinton	NY	13323-1534	USA	5/31/2024	RM	No	10	21	173490 00	Suspended
rdhobson@bellaliant.net	Roy	Hobson	(506) 645-7022	71 Acamac Beach Rd	St John	NB	E2M 6A2	CAN	12/31/2024	RM	No	12	21	901747 00	Suspended
kanee@nb.sympatico.ca	Robert	Kane	506-672-9212	33 Bon Accord Dr	Saint John	NB	E2J 3V5	CAN	9/30/2025	RM	No	12	21	901618 00	Suspended
actngalt@sover.net	Roger	Dumas	802-775-2736	15 ORCHARD DR	Rutland	VT	05701-2215	USA	2/29/2024	RM	No	13	21	042347 00	Mailbox full
kh98m@optonline.net	Dale	Butler	203/855-1330	92 CEDAR ST APT F2	Norwalk	CT	06854-2054	USA	12/31/2099	LF	Yes	14	21	L05468 0A	Suspended
jeff.w.dean.1958@hotmail.com	Jefferson	Dean	203-521-2416	4 LYRICAL LN	Sandy Hook	CT	06482-1613	USA	10/31/2024	RM	No	14	21	142337 00	Suspended
frankjosephdestfano@gmail.com	Frank	DeStefano		10 OLD MAMARONECK RD APT 6B	White Plains	NY	10605-1749	USA	9/30/2024	RM	No	14	21	172582 00	Suspended
stillsonr@sbcglobal.net	Robert	Stilson	(203) 259-6912	103 ORCHARD HILL DR	Fairfield	CT	06824-7318	USA	12/31/2023	RM	No	14	21	169150 00	Suspended
dentony@aol.com	Anthony	Caruso	(585) 247-0137	29 MARC MAR TRL	Rochester	NY	14606-3547	USA	2/29/2024	RP	No	15	21	173505 00	Suspended
vigo01@yahoo.com	Thomas	Chapell	(585) 548-7118	6539 SWAMP RD	Byron	NY	14422-9761	USA	12/31/2023	RP	No	15	21	173258 00	Suspended
jcrevellin@aol.com	John	Crevelling	716-621-2910	209 LILLIAN LN	Rochester	NY	14616-4330	USA	12/31/2099	LM	Yes	15	21	L03645 00	Suspended
awrrian_676@yahoo.com	Rian	deWitt	(505) 748-7537	PO BOX 676	Livonia	NY	14487-0676	USA	4/30/2025	ST	No	15	21	167750 00	Suspended
jjohnkathyk@aol.com	John	Krivitza	716-377-3965	9 LARROWE ST	Cohocton	NY	14826-9457	USA	11/30/2025	RM	No	15	21	092019 0A	Suspended
smarsden@optimum.net	Sydney	Marsden	551-427-8096	51 E GENESEE ST	Auburn	NY	13021-4028	USA	12/31/2099	LM	Yes	15	21	L03188 00	Suspended
jmoe@alum.rpi.edu	Jim	Moe	(585) 259-5785	29 HEARTHSTONE RD	Pittsford	NY	14534-1154	USA	2/28/2025	RM	No	15	21	169190 00	Mailbox full

NMRA #	Last name	First name	Email address	Division	ER Mer
167833 00	Blieka	Edward	edward.blieka@gmail.com	01	No
167833 00	Blieka`	Edward	edward.bliekr@gmail.com	01	Yes
078911 00	Cavanagh	John	jtcavanaugh1@aol.com	01	No
078911 00	Cavanagh	John	jtcavanagh1@aol.com	01	Yes
163478 00	Maniscalco	Michael	michaelmaniscalco7@gmail.com	01	No
163478 00	Maniscalco	Michael	michael.maniscalco7@gmail.com	01	Yes
030518 00	Pizzetta	Eugene	epizz9140@outlook.com	02	No
030518 00	Pizzetta	Eugene	epizz1940@outlook.com	02	Yes
173403 00	Reiss	Gary	bridget.reiss@gmail.com	02	No
173403 00	Reiss	Gary	bridge.reiss@gmail.com	02	Yes
170580 00	Ott	James	liz.ott@verizon.net	04	No
170580 00	Ott	James	brookdalelcc@gmail.com	04	Yes
098821 00	Salowey	Martin	martworld1974@gmail.com	04	No
098821 00	Salowey	Martin	martworld.is@verizon.net	04	Yes
146127 00	Greene	Richard	rwg.38tt@gmail.com	05	No
146127 00	Greene	Richard	richard_greene@sbcglobal.net	05	Yes
122275 00	Spavins	James	jcspavins@gmail.com	05	No
122275 00	Spavins	James	jim@jimspavins.com	05	Yes
139063 00	Freudigmann	Russell	rfreudigmann@gmail.com	06	No
139063 00	Freudigmann	Russell	rerfreudigmann@gmail.com	06	Yes
093682 00	Dunn	Geoff	geoffdunnsoccer@yahoo.com	07	No
093682 00	Dunn	Geoff	geoffdun@capital.net	07	Yes
020465 00	Maltz	Henry	hmaltz@twc.com	07	No
020465 00	Maltz	Henry	hmaltz20@yahoo.com	07	Yes
131226 00	McGrane	James	mcgran1451@twc.com	07	No
131226 00	McGrane Jr	James	mcgran1451@twc.net	07	Yes
172727 00	Knight	Lawrence	lknight@lighthousetechnicalsales.com	08	No
172727 00	Knight	Lawrence	lknight@lightthousetechincalsales.com	08	Yes
172709 00	Morris	John	jmorris27@nyc.rr.com	09	No
172709 00	Morris	John	morris27@nyc.rr.com	09	Yes
172030 00	Murphy	Jack	quikclick@hvi.net	09	No
172030 00	Murphy	Jack	quikclik@hvi.net	09	Yes
164517 00	Yustein	Robert	myust@aol.com	09	No
164517 00	Yustein	Robert	rnyust@aol.com	09	Yes
108424 0A	Berube	David	jomadabe2@gmail.com	10	No
108424 0A	Berube	David	jomadabe2@verizon.net	10	Yes
172994 00	Militello	Tom	trinmed343@aol.com	10	No
172994 00	Militello	Tom	trainmed343@aol.com	10	Yes
141037 00	Fox	Gerald	jfoxut@gmail.com	13	No
141037 00	Fox	Gerald	jfoxvt@gmail.com	13	Yes
L05468 0A	Butler	Dale	dale6@frontier.com	14	No
L05468 0A	Butler	Dale	kh98m@optonline.net	14	Yes
172582 00	DeStafano	Frank	frankjosephdestefano@gmail.com	14	No
172582 00	DeStefano	Frank	frankjosephdestfano@gmail.com	14	Yes
134176 00	Russell	Scott	sdruss1005@aol.com	14	No
134176 00	Russell	Scott	upturbine@outlook.com	14	Yes
173258 00	Chapell	Thomas	vig01@yahoo.com	15	No
173258 00	Chapell	Thomas	vigo01@yahoo.com	15	Yes
171427 00	Fish	Grant	gfish@rochester.rr.com	15	No
171427 00	Fish	Grant	gfish845@gmail.com	15	Yes
L05702 00	Nowlan	Eugene	enowlan@gmail.com	15	No
L05702 00	Nowlan	Eugene	enowlan@me.com	15	Yes

ATTACHMENT 6

Webmaster Report

1/10/2024

Convention web design is 99% complete for Lakeshore ’24. Rick Mazzola is currently adding content. The menu link for Lakeshore ’24 is being held back until enough appropriate content is available and posted. Registration page likely the most important page (need for the Amherst show).

Archives for 2022 & 2023 conventions are functioning but need a little more design work and significant time to add content (promise summer 2024). Convention archiving for this year and beyond will be automatic (no work).

Lakeshores ’24 major categories (Landing Pages) are:

- Clinics
- Layout Tours
- Operation Sessions
- Registration
- About
- Accommodations
- Awards Breakfast
- Banquet
- Business Meeting
- Contests
- Interchange Room
- Non-Rail Activities
- Prototype Tours
- Raffles
- Reception
- Schedule
- Sponsors

Some categories may be tweaked, combined or deleted depending on content.

Jim Seroskie
NER Webmaster

Rick Mazzola
Convention website content coordinator

ATTACHMENT 7

Interim Office Manager Report – Erich Whitney

January 14, 2024

NER Board of Directors:
This has been a rough couple of months working through aftermath of Mark Harlow's passing. The sudden and shocking loss of a good friend is difficult enough, then working with Gerry Covino and Peter Watson who have done the incredible task of working with Mark's family to transfer all of the information Mark had so that we can move not only the NER records forward, but also the HUB division. This process has only just started and it will take time to complete so I hope you can appreciate the magnitude of the task and be patient.

As you may or may not know, I have been working with Mark for about four years to help him process the NMRA reports. About a year ago, the report format we received got changed, and while I knew about that, I was limping along using the old format because they were sending both old and new versions. Mark was happy with it and there were discussions at the Long Island convention that NMRA IT was transitioning away from spreadsheets anyway, so I didn't see the need to do the work to adapt my software to use the new version.

In a "perfect storm" situation, NMRA IT announced that they were ending support for the old spreadsheet format, you guessed it, January 2024. So, in the middle of all this turmoil, I was thrust into a major effort to adapt what I had done to handle the new Excel files. This in and of itself wasn't a big deal, but as I soon found out, the office manager job needed to produce more information than just the division rosters—something Mark never told me. Since I didn't have access to any of his files or knew anything about his process, I decided to modify my software to implement the things I needed as I found out about them… And 2000 lines of Python later I've got a platform to work from.

As you should have seen from emails sent on 1/11/2024, I've sent out all new data in CSV format so that everyone should be able to read these files on anything without a problem. This is the lowest common denominator file format. If you are having difficulty, please let me know.

NMRA Report Generation
This is a list of the reports that my program generates from the NMRA HQ monthly reports:
• NMRA Reports
o MonthlyMemberRosterReport
o 30DaysPastDueReport
o 60DaysPastDueReport
o NewMembersReport
o RenewalsReport
o RegionNewSubscriptionsReport
o RegionNewSubscriptionByDivisionReport
o RegionNewsletterSubscriptionReport
o ChangeOfAddressReport
o BoundaryReport
o NMRADeceasedMemberReport
o RegionDeceasedMemberReport
o Inactive,ExpiredOrWithdrawnMembersReport
• NER Coupler Editor Reports
o RegionDeceasedMemberReport
o NewMembersReport
o CouplerUSMailingList
• NER Coupler Printer Mailing List
o CouplerUSMailingList

For each of the NMRA reports, you will get a copy of the report if:

1. All reports go to the NER Region.
2. Divisions get a report if the report contains members from their division.

Prior to the reports being generated, the software performs all division reassignments that have been requested and approved. So, these files are NOT just copied from the NMRA—they have been updated to reflect these division moves. I maintain a separate spreadsheet that has all these reassignments.

The December release is a first pass and I expect there will be changes. Please note that I missed the "ChangeOfAddressReport" and "BoundaryReport" when I processed December because I used the November release for testing, and these weren't included in the November release. I will include these in January. I expect that IT will be changing this every month now, so I'll have to keep my eyes open and add/subtract files until they figure it out…

NER Coupler Mailing
I didn't initially have any way of generating a mailing list for our Canadian members. NMRA HQ knew nothing about it… BUT, I have been able to get into Mark Harlow's computer. I have saved his files to a USB stick. The file organization was going to take a lot of time to figure out, ***however in a bit of luck,*** I managed to find the Canadian Coupler mailing list which I will forward to Chris Carfaro.

As for the US mailing list, I am still waiting for NMRA IT to resolve a database issue that I raised with them back in the beginning of December where I explained there were major discrepancies between the old and new spreadsheets they were sending out. The result is that they have been dropping somewhere in the ballpark of 20-40 members from the Region lists depending on which list you look at. They acknowledged the problem. Susan Straub at NMRA HQ also confirmed that she saw the same problem and she was able to resolve the conflict on some of the members. However, we don't have a final resolution on this yet. The January Coupler mailing went out after Chris Carfaro went through the November and December lists and tried to stitch together the overlap so that hopefully we didn't miss too many members…

Other Duties
I have reviewed the NER "Operations Manual for NER Office Manager." I have yet to triage what is to be done next, but will endeavor to do so.

If you got this far in the report, I commend you 😉 Please reach out to me if you have any questions.
I hope to see you in Springfield!

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

ATTACHMENT 8

Eastern Director Report

January 14, 2024

NER Board of Directors:

Here's my report for this quarter.

• **Division meetings** – Regretfully, my schedule has not allowed me time to attend recent division meetings due to family priorities.
o Little Rhody Division
o HUB Division
o Nutmeg Division

• **Train Shows** – I have managed to make it to a couple of train shows (see notes below)

o Greenburg Train Show, Wilmington, Mass – Unfortunately I didn't see much of this show because I spent the entire time debugging the new LCC module yard panel control system we installed. This was the first show where all the pieces could be put together in one place. From the little time I did spend walking around the show, it looked smaller than past years but still seemed quite busy.

o HUB New England Model Trail Expo, Marlboro, Mass – Again, I was very busy, this time helping in to fill in after the passing of Mark Harlow who has been the show manager for many years. This was an all-hands on deck situation for the Division. Attendance was certainly down from years past, but the activity was still high and we were very busy all weekend.

Respectfully Submitted
Erich Whitney

ATTACHMENT 9

CENTRAL NEW YORK: Submitted January 7, 2024
by Drew James, CNY Superintendent

In November we had a division table at the Great New York State Model Train Fair in Syracuse. We gained three new members as a result. Also in November, we held a meeting at the Town of Clay Historical Park. We toured the park's historical "Cigarville" station and one of our new members, Conner Hawes, gave an outstanding clinic on his techniques for weathering engines and rolling stock. We had an excellent turnout of almost 40 including a couple of new members.

Over the course of 2023 our membership increased from 73 to 77 members. We had nine new members which is the most in many years. We have several members making progress in the AP program although no certificates were awarded this year.

We still are awaiting the IRS to complete their review of our 501c3 application. The last word was that we would get an update towards the end of January.

Invitations recently went out for our annual "Ops Till You Drop" event which will be held April 27-28. Unfortunately, we have lost a couple of layouts and have fewer slots than normal. We are optimistic that we will gain one or two additional layouts next year, though. This event is open to any NMRA member and their guests.

In November, Dave Durr, Ed Olszewski, and Drew James met with the Convention Center and two hotels in Rochester to discuss the requirements to host the 2029 national convention. These meetings solidified our belief that Rochester is a strong candidate city. The next step will be an informal briefing with Gordy Robinson and Ed Slintak at Springfield. The current plan is for the NER to be the organization which will make the bid and hold the contract with National.

ATTACHMENT 10

GARDEN STATE DIVISION

Report to NER Board of Directors

January 14, 2024

- GSD Board meetings

    a. The next scheduled board meeting is to be January 20, 2024

2. Achievement Program

    a. Bob Dennis completed work on his Scenery certificate; it will be presented at the February meet

    b. Steve Scharfstein completed work on his Electrical certificate; it will be presented at the February meet.

    c. Brian Scharfstein completed work on his Golden Spike certificate; it has been privately presented.

    d. List of individuals known to be working on certificates:

        i. Tom Wortman - cars
        ii. Jim Homoki - civil
        iii. Ed Bush - electrical
        iv. Mark Moritz - Chief Dispatcher
        v. Scott Gothe - Author
        vi. Jim Walsh - Author
        vii. Ciro Compagno - Association Official

3. Membership Events

    a. Winter meet to be held at Park Ridge Masonic Hall in February. This will be a "make 'n' take" meet

4. Whistlepost

    a. Fall issue came out in September

    b. Winter issue will come out in January/February

5. Membership

    There has been no change in membership numbers.

ATTACHMENT 11

HUB Division

NER Regional Quarterly Report

Overview of Fourth Quarter 2023

HUB division had a busy fourth quarter, with various modular display events; Nashua Vally RR Club, Train Show (formerly Greenberg), HUB's own New England Model Train Expo, Display at the Museum of Science through January 15th 2024. All events were very well attended.
Our modular superintendent and coordinator have schedule additional modular events during spring 2024.

Our *Railfun* activities has been revamp from nights to weekend morning or afternoon to attract more members to attend, with alternate location venue and with every other month doing Zoom presentations.
HUB annual Holiday event also change from evening to afternoon, and besides having other external Boston events it was well attended.

On a sad note, we all lost a good friend in November 2023; Mark Harlow. He will be missed….

Membership
The Membership Chair is recruiting new members at our events. We've had two (8) new members since October 2023. Total so far 26 new members since the beginning of last year 2023. But we are not retaining some of our exiting members. Board of Directors will be discussing and coming up on ways to institute a retainage program with the membership committee.
The AP Chairman's Chair, working on a few applicants but nothing to report for this quarter.

Division Financials
HUB Division is pleased to report that our division finances ended 2023 in good standing.

Annual Meeting
HUB Division Annual Meeting is scheduled for April 2024, via Zoom. Voting on three (3) Board of Directors for three (3) years.

Respectfully submitted,
Manny Escobar
HUB Division, Inc. el Presidente
7 January 2024

ATTACHMENT 12

Hudson-Berkshire Division Report to NER

January 08, 2024

Our Fall meetings were in person, and several had the option of participating in them online via Zoom. We had several different themes for our meetings and they were well attended.

In October, the Division traveled 94 miles to the east to visit the Chester Railway Station and Museum. There, we first held our monthly membership business meeting (which was interrupted by a passing CSX train!) and then we split into two groups. One stayed on site and listened to an excellent tour and presentation by David Pierce, President of the Museum. We learned all about the local history of the railroad line (it was the first mountain railroad and it was the first railroad in the U.S. to use pusher engines) and toured some of the rolling stock on site including a restored caboose that is available for renting for overnight trips. We next toured in the inside of the station which has been restored and is now filled with railroad memorabilia and displays. You could breathe the railroad history in the air. We finished by walking across the street and explored the ancient granite quarry operations which took place literally a hundred feet from the station. Much of the equipment including a gigantic stone cutting saw blade are still intact. This part of the tour proved to be just as interesting and the purely-railroad subjects.

At the same time, the second group toured an excellent nearby HO railroad built by Tom Beck. What made his layout so special was that he not only built it in a few short years, but there were so many scenes which were spread out instead of being crammed together. It allowed everything to “breathe” in a very realistic way. Everyone who saw the layout really enjoyed it.

Our November meeting was held at a local library with the option to view and participate remotely. The focus of the meeting was a special presentation by Otto Vondrak, currently the editor of *Railroad Model Craftsman* magazine. The presentation was titled “The Enduring Influence of the Virginian & Ohio” and it discussed modeler Allen McClelland’s innovations in layout design and operation, and the practical applications many of us still follow today on our own railroads. After the presentation there was time for questions and answers, and Otto was asked not only about the V&O but also other subjects such as operations at *RMC* magazine and at the local railroad museum where he is President. It was another well attended meeting and everyone really had a great time learning new things and talking with Otto.

Elections were also held at the November meeting, with two positions (Vice President, Member of the Board) open for vote. Our Leadership Team for 2023-2024 is as follows:

- President: myself
- Vice President: Doug Dederick (re-*elected*)
- Member of the Board: Michael Hachey
- Member of the Board: James Lauser (*newly elected*)

Our previous 2022 Great Train Extravaganza (GTE) show was a success, especially considering it was held during the pandemic, and we hoped our 2023 show would be even better. Thankfully, it was! We had more tickets sold this year than the previous year, and this was despite a necessitated price increase to cover our rising expenses. The demand for vendor tables was still high. To put on the GTE we relied heavily on our member volunteers, who didn’t let us down again. They turned out in full force and assisted with the set-up, operation, and break down of the show. During GTE, we collected almost $300 in donations which will be used towards the purchase of train sets as part of our *Paul Weschler Memorial Toys for Tots Fund* drive.

Through careful management of our resources and the generous donations of our members, we are ending 2023 on a strong financial footing.

I look forward to working with the Leadership Team and helping to strengthen and grow the Hudson Berkshire Division in the upcoming year. It is an exciting time to be a member of the NMRA.

Benjamin L. Maggi, President

ATTACHMENT 13

LAKESHORES DIVISION

Elected Division Officers
Superintendent David P. Durr Penfield, NY 08704600
Asst. Superintendent Ed O'Connell Rochester, NY 15974600
Chief Clerk Rob Bartels Webster, NY 17172200
Treasurer John E. Becker Victor, NY 08713700

In November 2022 the current slate of Officers were each elected to two year terms in their respective positions. The next elections will be held at the 2024 Annual Business Meeting in October or November.

Appointed Positions
Membership Chair James H. Fairbanks Canandaigua, NY L0271110
Member Aid Chair Edward Spiller MMR Hammondsport, NY 07248000
AP Chair Edward Spiller MMR Hammondsport, NY 0724800
Webmaster Ed O'Connell Rochester, NY 15974600
Editor Raymond A. Howard Geneva, NY 12867900
Company Photographer James C. DeMarco MMR Kendall, NY 11454200
T-TRAK Chair Jeff Faust Rochester, NY 16503400
RPM Committee Chair Mike Pyszczek LeRoy, NY 07310100
Operations Chair Ed O'Connell Rochester, NY 15974600
At-large Representative Gordon Spalty Rochester, NY L0418900

Membership
As of November 21, 2023 the Division had 104 members with dues up-to-date and 1 member past due; this is an increase of 14 members. All those who are past-due are contacted by the Member-Aid Chair.

Executive Committee
The current Executive Committee consists of all elected officers, the immediate past superintendent and all those in appointed positions. Three members are required to conduct business. The EC met monthly, except for December, via Zoom. Minutes are available upon request.

Finance
As of December 31, 2023 the Division's checking account balance was $2,709.64. There was $20.00 in petty cash. Total Division funds were $2,729.64. Income for 2023 was $1,524.80; expenses were $1,724.73; net was ($199.93).

Awards
Harold Russell MMR received both the NMRA President's Award and the NMRA Distinguished Service Award.

AP Report
In 2023 the following AP awards were given:
Merit Awards: Jim Fairbanks (Motive Power x 1)
Dave Durr (Motive Power x 1)
AP Certificates: Jim Fairbanks (Motive Power)
Dave Durr (Motive Power)
MMR Certificates: Jim Fairbanks

To assist members in documenting activities that may be applied for Volunteer and Author credits, the Division issues a Member Activities Report for each calendar year. The 2023 log was distributed to members on January 7, 2024.

Communication
The Lake Shores Limited (LSL) is the Division's newsletter. Six regular issues were published in the odd months of 2023 along with one Holiday EXTRA edition in December. There was significant content input from the Lakeshores general membership for these issues. The LSL is emailed to all Division members, prospective members, NER officers and superintendents, Christina Zambri (NMRA Marketing Consultant), and Jim Zinzer, MMR (Editor of Division Business Car, NMRA Magazine); less than 10 Lakeshores members receive a print edition.
A Member Marketplace for members to post railroading items to sell or acquire is included in each newsletter along with the Tool Library, a forum for members to inquire about borrowing specialized tools from other members.

Our Webmaster continues to develop our website (<lakeshoresnmra.org>) and Facebook presence. The website currently archives our LSL newsletters back to 2011. There is also an up-to-date Officers' Directory, Timetable with a calendar of upcoming NMRA and non-NMRA model railroading events, Division Constitution and By-Laws, MMR information and links to other model railroading organizations. Over the past year there have been some format changes that have delayed other anticipated projects, such as developing a password-required members only section listing contact (for consenting members) and layout information.

Member Publications–National and Regional
Jim Fairbanks MMR published "MMR Earned," his road to the MMR Award, in the August *NMRA Magazine*. Dave Durr contributed to "Destination–MMR" in the June *NMRA Magazine* and wrote "Contributor of Yore Still Going Strong" for the October issue of *Model Railroader*.

NMRAx/NERx Convention
For NERx Ed O'Connell presented a clinic, "Uncoupling Tools." Mike Pyszczek had two "Tips and Tricks" mini-clinics–"Microbrushes" and "Styrene Cutting." Dave Durr reviewed Harold Russell's techniques for "Guess-timating Structural Dimensions." John Becker, Gordon Spalty, Jeanne Spalty and Dave Durr had models in the Showcase.

NER Convention
For the 2023 Cannonball Express in Long Island the Lakeshores Division again sponsored Harold Russell Award for the highest scoring Model Contest–Structures entry which was awarded to Andreas Werder of the Sunrise Trail Division.

The Lakeshores Division will be hosting Lakeshores'24, the 2024 NER Convention from September 19 to 22. VisitRochester, the area's convention bureau, is assisting. The RIT Inn and Conference Center will be the convention headquarters. At this point more clinics are needed, as are sponsors, vendors and raffle donations. Layouts for tours/operations, prototype venues, and non-rail activities are lined up. Author Mark Klingel will be the banquet's keynote speaker.

General Membership Meets
LakeshoresX23, a Zoom meet, was held on Saturday, February 11. This year's meet was a joint effort by Div12-MCR, WNY-NFR and Lakeshores-NER. Presentations included "Developing Operations for the PRR Chautauqua Branch" by Brad White (Div12), "Expand Your Horizons with Backdrops" by Dave Ellis (MCR) and "Scratch-building with Styrene…mostly" by Dave Durr. There were 39 attendees including NMRA President, Gordy Robinson MMR.

This year's Spring Meet was held on Saturday, April 15 at the Genesee Society of Model Engineers in Oakfield, NY. There were 15 LSD members and 6 GSME members in attendance; Mike Pyszczek, a member of both LSD and GSME organized the meet. Three clinics were presented by Mike Pyszczek, Jim DeMarco MMR and Dave Durr. The GSME club layouts were available for viewing. Mike Pyszczek and Jim DeMarco MMR opened their layouts following the meet.

"Donuts on the Deck (DOTD)," a freestyle train meet, took place at the Durr's residence on Saturday, June 24. Twenty-two LSD members attended. Included in the discussions were some show-and-tell, tips and tricks, requests for information and a clinic by Jeff Faust.

Two division picnics were held this summer. The first, a combined Lakeshores/Genesee & Ontario Model Engineers event that included operations on the GnO T-TRAK modular layout, was held at the Durr's residence on Sunday, July 16; 34 members and guests attended. The second was a division picnic/swap meet at the DeMarco's residence on Sunday, August 13; 25 members and guests attended.

On Saturday, September 16, the CNY division invited the Lakeshores and Hudson-Berkshire divisions to tour 9 layouts in the CNY; 14 of the Lakeshores members viewed the layouts and joined in a pizza dinner at the Twin Trees Restaurant in Syracuse.

Another DOTD was held on Saturday, October 28 at John and Kathy Krivitza'a home in Cohocton. Included among the 17 attendees were NER Vice-President Dave Insley and his wife, Cheryl. John's basement-sized layout is under construction and was open for the attendees.

The Fall General Membership Meet and Annual Business meeting were held on Saturday, November 11 at the First United Methodist Church of Geneva. Cal Adams organized the meet which had 28 attendees. Jim Fairbanks MMR and Rob Bartels presented clinics: Dave Durr previewed the Lakeshores'24 convention. Jeff Faust received the 2023 Superintendent's award. Ray Howard and Cal Adams had their layouts open after the meet.

RPM Meet
The Lakeshores Division co-sponsored the second Annual BataviaRPM Meet along with the Genesee Society of Model Engineers on Sunday, March 26, 2023. The meet was held in conjunction with the Great Batavia Train Show. There were fifteen registrants and twelve modelers displaying in-progress and finished projects. Ken Akerboom (WNY-NFR) and Dave Durr presented clinics. The third BataviaRPM Meet will be held on Sunday, April 14, 2024.

Operation Weekend
The “Op Around the Clock” (OATC) operation weekend, organized by Ed O’Connell, was held on Friday and Saturday, March 24 and 25 . Ned Spiller MMR, Jim DeMarco MMR, Gordon and Jeanne Spalty, Ron Stacy and the Rochester Model Railroad Club were the participating layout owners. Attendees included several from out of state. The next OATC will be Friday and Saturday, March 22 and 23 following NERx.

Other Activities
Our Division actively promoted the NMRA along with WNY(NFR) and Div12(MCR) at the following local shows: Hemlock, NY in September; the Great Batavia Train Show in March and October; and the RIT Tiger Tracks Train Show and Sale in December. Typically NMRA promotional material are brought to shows along with Jeff Faust’s small, very kid-friendly Inglenook Layout or the Division’s HO scale T-TRAK switching layout. All of the shows have posted 2024 dates.

Lakeshores Division apparel continues to be offered through Daylight Sales, an NMRA-sponsored vendor. Several member orders were placed in 2022.

Respectfully submitted,
David P. Durr
Superintendent

ATTACHMENT 14

Little Rhody Division

Interim Report

12 January 2024

The fall and early winter have been busy for Little Rhody. While preparing for and holding their Little Rhody Model Railroad Expo train show, they were planning, designing layouts, purchasing equipment and setting up two model railroad displays at the Roger Williams Park Botanical Center in Providence, RI. A Christmas Train was set up in one conservatory around a Christmas Tree placed on a plywood base over a fountain. This was surrounded by white poinsettia plants. In the next conservatory, we designed a ski/snow train layout/display that represented the old ski trains that ran from Boston, MA to the ski areas in New Hampshire. This model included a flatcar with a ski rack that included skis and ski poles designed and built by Tom Emmett, MMR. Both layouts were run on demand with a button system designed by a recent engineering graduate from SMU in Dartmouth, MA. The train layout displays were open throughout the holiday season and were taken down on Monday, Jan 8, 2024 to be stored for next year when these displays plus two additional train displays will be created for the Botanical Center. Little Rhody acted as consultants/contractors in this endeavor; we provided the knowledge and expertise, did the purchasing, trained the local staff on how to clean the track and were available for troubleshooting. The staff at the Botanical Center kept the train running and kept the track and trucks clean throughout.

Our Little Rhody Model Railroad Expo train show was held the first weekend in November at the Scottish Rite Masonic Center in Cranston, RI with multiple vendors and many layouts to engage the public. We had a good turnout and the people at the Masonic Center were very helpful to us throughout the experience.

We continue to work on getting information out to the membership on the Achievement Program and have one new member who recently received the Golden Spike Award.

With the advent of the new year and the train show and displays at the Botanical Center finished, we can concentrate on getting back to the usual business of the division for a while before planning begins for our summer work and the Botanical Center work and train show for next year.

Sue Osberg
Superintendent, Little Rhody Division, NER, NMRA

ATTACHMENT 15

SEACOAST DIVISION

Seacoast Division 2025 NER Convention Committee

The Seacoast Division 2025 NER Convention Committee continues to work toward the goal of putting on a GREAT 2025 Convention. The four convention committees are staffed and all contributed to the 2025 NER Convention Proposal that was submitted to the NER BOD on January 9, 2024 for review and approval on January 14, 2024.

Again, I wish to thank and congratulate the Seacoast Division and Green Mountain Division members who have stepped up and taken on Convention Committee Co-Chairmen or Committee member positions as follows:

Tage Erickson, Peter McKenney, and Will Everitt are the Co-chairmen of the Local Convention Committee.

Peter McKenney and Chris Carfaro (Green Mountain Division) are the Co-chairmen for the Publicity Committee. Committee members will include Mike Pedersen, Jim Seroskie, and Guy Mason.

John McHugh and Jay Ehlen are the Co-chairmen for the Indoor Activities Committee. Committee members include Jim Gore, MMR, in charge of the Model with the Masters Clinics and Tom Oxnard, MMR.

Ken Moller and Dave Sias are the Co-chairmen for the Outside Activities Committee. Committee members include Rich Breton and Glenn Mitchell.

Winter 2024 Event

The Seacoast Winter 2024 event was held on January 6, 2024 at the Westbrook Community Center in Westbrook ME.

Bob Kotsonis gave an outstanding presentation on the restoration efforts of the Flying Yankee Train. Bob's organization is working to restore the Flying Yankee to operational condition. Jeff Goldberg, president of the Southern Maine Model Railroad Club, gave an illustrative talk on how the SMMRRC has leased space in the Westbrook Community Center in order to build and display their modular layout permanently. The Show and Tell part of the meeting included presentations by Jack Lutz and Tom Oxnard, MMR.

Glenn then presented the 2024 Seacoast Division Goals to the membership:

Continue planning for the 2025 NER Convention in Concord, NH
Encourage more Membership Participation
    Display models at Show & Tell Sessions
    Give presentations on home layouts
Layout tours of members layouts
Increase membership retention

Seacoast Division 2024 Annual Meeting

President Glenn Mitchell conducted the Annual Meeting as part of the Winter 2024 Event. The first task was to elect the three Directors. Will Everitt, John McHugh and Glenn Mitchell were unanimously elected to the three Director positions. We would like to thank outgoing Directors Ralph Brown and Jack Lutz for their many years of service to the Seacoast Division. Glenn presented the status and highlights of the Division to the members. Following the conclusion of the Event a short Seacoast BOD meeting was held to elect the new President and Vice President and to approve the President's selections for officers and chairmen. The 2024 Seacoast Division Leadership team is listed here:

President – Glenn Mitchell
Vice – President – Jay Ehlen
Treasurer – Jim Seroskie
Secretary – Will Everitt
AP Chairman – Tom Oxnard, MMR
Associate AP Chairman – Peter McKenney

Membership Chairman - Bruce Campbell
Deputy Membership Chairman – Paul Lessard
Webmaster – Dave Delorey
Switch Tower Editor – Geoff Anthony
Switch Tower Assistant Editor – Steve Russo
Faulter Fund Chairman – Tage Erickson
Maine Registered Agent – Tage Erickson
Activities Coordinator – Jay Ehlen
Publicity Chairman – Guy Mason
Historian – Jack Lutz

Respectfully submitted,
Glenn Mitchell
Seacoast Division NMRA President and Director

ATTACHMENT 16

Hudson Valley Division Report

January 14 2024:

With the unexpected resignaton of our Superintendent and our tenured Secretary/Treasurer giving notce that he will be resigning at the end of 2023, we ended the year in turmoil.

Although our Annual Meetng was delayed until December, we now have a new Superintendent, Secretary/Treasurer and a full Board of Directors. Despite the snow, our January meeting was held and a clinic was given on scratch building realistic trees. We are also in the planning stages of settng up in-person meetings for February and March.

Membership: In the 4th quarter, our membership declined by five members (two of them passed away). Now that we have gotten our program back on-track, our next goal is retention and recruitment. Several ideas had been floated, including having community out-reach programs and holding meetings in public venues. We also plan to have a presence at the Kingston Train Show in March.

Finance: Check writing privileges have been transferred to the new officers. We are currently investigating changing banks from a bank with a very small geographic footprint to one that has branches throughout our District. Our finances are low but stable and we are currently dependent upon the Region rebate remittance support that we receive.

Other:

- We have received word that our application for 501(c)(3) status has been approved. Hopefully this will help us solicit additional donations.
- The Division now has a mailing address. It is: **680 Route 211 East, Suite 3B 173, Middletown, NY 10941.**
- We are working on revamping our Division's website.
- Our Division Newsletter has been improved and will be published on a bi-monthly basis.

Henry Kramer
Superintendent
Hudson Valley Division of the NMRA

ATTACHMENT 17

COUPLER REPORT FOR NER BOARD OF DIRECTORS

JANUARY 14, 2024

1. EDITOR COMMENTS:

a. *The NER Coupler* continues with the same staff and columns.
b. We are low on articles - Division leaders please encourage members to write for us.
c. Reminder - with a simple email, Max Brisben (Asst. Editor) and I are very willing to help anyone wishing to submit articles and photographs.
d. The current issue features heavily on post-convention coverage of the Cannonball Express, along with pre-convention coverage for both NERX'24 and Lakeshores '24.
e. 50 extra copies were printed and shipped to Dave Insley for use at the Springfield show.
f. The online version of the Coupler will release tomorrow. (1/15)
g. The January edition was delayed in it's distribution due to database troubles with NMRA national. A huge thanks goes out to Erich Whitney and Gerry Covino for working this issue in light of Mark Harlow's passing. (See Erich Whitney's report)
h. I have received 20 extra copies to distribute to the Canada members, when I receive their addresses, also, to cover any US members that might have been missed with the database problems.
i. Congratulations to Jeff Paston (who is at this meeting) for winning the Winter edition cover, with a great photograph from a Cannonball Express layout/ops sessions visit.
j. Overall I am pleased with the publication, as are various NMRA groups around the country, requesting permission to reprint various columns and articles from the NER Coupler.

2. Service to Divisions

a. The NER Coupler staff has the skills and tools to produce marketing trifold brochures for Divisions
b. A standardized template was made available to the NER divisions and NMRA national (Christina)
c. Only three divisions have taken us up directly, on the offer (GMD, Sunrise Trail and CNY), however, other divisions may be using the template on their own without needing our assistance.
d. This is a work in progress in coordination with Christina at NMRA national and Chuck Diljak of the NER.

3. CONVENTIONS:

a. NERX '24 has received a single page in the January NER Coupler
b. Lakeshores '24 received two pages in the January NER Coupler and will receive four pages for Spring 2024 and six pages for Summer 2024
c. I am still developing an idea template to provide to convention committees on how best to use the space given them.

4. TRAVEL AND EXPOSURE:

a. I plan to send myself on assignment to several Division meets and ops this Spring. In part to continue building a photo collection on my Google Drive, which has tons of pictures from conventions and more. I've given access to this collection to Jim Serokie and other individuals within the NER. Access is easily attained by contacting me. Photo credit is attached to each photo in it's information field.