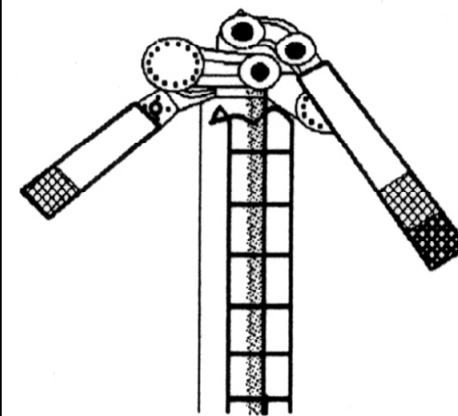


The **CLEARBOARD**
P.O. Box 1146
Union, NJ 07083-1146

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The Clearboard

The official newsletter of The Model Railroad Club, Inc.

Issue No 503

January, 2011



Nice Mug...

11oz. White ceramic coffee mug with Club logo printed in blue on both sides. Dishwasher and microwave safe.

MEMBER PRICE: \$5.00

(Price includes 7% NJ sales tax.)

Get Yours Today!

Clearboard Deadlines:

February 2011 Issue: Deadline for all submissions is January 29.

Publication on or about February 5 (or whenever the new editor decides).

March 2011 Issue: Deadline for all submissions is February 25

Publication on or about March 5.



The process goes on — The N Scale Department gets together for its Annual Meeting to elect their department head and develop their plans and agenda for the coming year. It is through this process that the Club renews itself and passes the torch our Club's purpose from year to year. Who we are, want we want to do, and how.

The CLEARBOARD

EDITOR: Frank Rosenbaum

Contributors: Bob Nalbene, Russ Fiero, Brian Cicero and Roger Oliver.

Photographers: Roger Oliver, Gene Mikijanik, Don Kern, Brian Cicero, and Carlos Langezaal.

PRODUCTION & DISTRIBUTION: Bill Jambor

Unless otherwise attributed, all photographs were taken by the staff photographer: Roger Oliver.

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SUBMITTING ARTICLES & EDITORIAL POLICY

The Editors of *The Clearboard* welcome articles and photographs submitted by members. Submitted articles will be given due consideration and may be edited for content as well as spelling and syntax. Articles edited for content will be reviewed with the author prior to being published. When submitting an article for publication in *The Clearboard*, we ask that you follow these procedures:

- The Board of Director's requires all articles to be bylined. Anonymous submissions will not be published.
- We prefer computer disk files to typewritten or handwritten pages. All typewritten and handwritten submissions must be double-spaced with one-inch margins on all sides.
- If you submit an article by disk or thumb drive. We prefer MS Word 2000 or MS 2003 format, but we can use submissions saved as text files.
- A hard copy of the article should accompany your submission just incase we destroy your disk.
- You may email articles to:

TMRCi_Clearboard@TMRCi.org.

Scanning services for photographs are available. Submit your photographs to *The Clearboard* editor's mail box in the Club office.

- All editorials are the opinions of the author, and do not necessarily reflect the official position of the Club or the Board of Directors

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Nomination Committee Report

From Brian Cicero

For President: Carlos Langenzaal

Vice President: Tom Voytac

Treasurer: John Wilkens

Secretary: Eugene Mikijanik

Director: Russ Fiero, Ed Savage

Webmaster's Report:

Thursday, January 6, 2011

-- Site Summary --

Visits

Total	43,129
Average per Day	30
Average Visit Length	1:20
This Week	210

Page Views

Total	144,130
Average per Day	55
Average per Visit	1.8
This Week	383

The CLEARBOARD Commentary

By Frank Rosenbaum, ed.

Financial Summary by John Wilkens Treasurer

Hello everyone. My name is Frank Rosenbaum and I have volunteered to edit the Clearboard for a while. I have been a member of various train clubs since 1974 and held almost every office there is in a club. I started in The Westchester Model Railroad Club, in Rye NY, and was a member until I moved to Michigan in 1999. I helped set up and run the club's train meet in Greenwich, CT as well as holding various club offices.

When I moved to Eastern Michigan where I found The Gratiot Valley Model Railroad Club, in Mt. Clemens. I was there until I moved to the west side of Michigan and joined The Kalamazoo Model Railroad Historical Society. I helped both clubs with their annual train shows and newsletters.

Another move took me to the Seattle Washington area where I became active in the local NMRA chapter, helped organize their train show, and found a private model railroad to work on.

Now, I find myself back east and a member of this club. I have been a member since August, 2010, and was asked to become editor after Roger found out that I have done newsletters before.

I have produced newsletters for other organizations as well as done Desktop Publishing for myself. I am looking forward to producing a club newsletter we can all be proud of.

At the moment, I will make only one addition to the Clearboard. That addition will be in the form of a small comment on "You are a Model Railroader if/when:" Hopefully it will be on the humorous side, but not offensive. An example would be; "You are a model railroader if: you paint your RV in the color scheme of your favorite railroad." I solicit and welcome all comments and suggestions for this, as well as any comments you have regarding things you would like to see in the Clearboard. I will also ask everyone to consider writing an article about what you have an interest in or done at the club. If you have pictures, include them with a caption.

You can send them by the 25th of the month for the following month's issue, to:

TMRCi_Clearboard@TMRCi.org and I will get it.

Thank you,

Frank A. Rosenbaum

Annual Report of the Secretary - The Model Railroad Club, Inc. December 15, 2010

The following represents a summation of activities conducted on behalf of The Model Railroad Club, Inc. (hereafter "the Club") by the Secretary, Eugene Mikijanic, during the office year 2010.

As in nearly 13 prior years of service to the Club in the office of Secretary, various items of internal and external correspondence were handled on behalf of the Club in a timely fashion. This year it included answering a request for possible member information from a law firm in the closing days of this year. Correspondence of various types in hard-copy and electronic formats were exchanged with various parties. Copies of the hardcopy correspondences are filed in the permanent records of the Club in a monthly basis organized by transaction date, with specialized folders for unique, confidential or repeating topics.

The Corporate Seal continues to be secured during the reporting period as well as during all service years rendered by this Secretary. The Corporate Seal was only applied to documents as approved during BOD meetings.

Copies of the Club Constitution and By-Laws as maintained by the Office Manager on behalf of the Membership Chairperson were posted to the website. Copies are available from the Membership Chair as stipulated in Article III Section 4 of the Club By-Laws. Copies are also available via the Club website accessible via the internet at <http://www.tmrcki.com> or <http://www.tmrcki.org> which continues to draw plaudits from visitors from around the world.

Minutes of all BOD meetings at which I was in attendance were produced, distributed and filed in accordance with the Constitution. Electronic copies are available as well, distributed to fellow BOD members and to the Editor of the Clearboard.

It has been my continued honor and privilege to serve the membership this past year and during the nearly 13 years that I've been in this position. I have enjoyed the opportunity to challenge the other BOD members and Officers, to continue acting as a devil's advocate, representing all Activity Departments of the Club equally, and to actively challenge the processes used, and decisions made during various meetings I've attended as an Officer of our Club. I hope that I have performed to the pleasure of the membership and hereby continue to thank you for that opportunity.

In closing I'd just like to say that I've agreed to have my name submitted as a candidate with hopes of continuing to serve for you as Secretary for the upcoming year. If returned to office I will continue to handle the Webmaster duties of the Club as well. This year service issues with the site were resolved, and the cost to present the site to the world has been significantly reduced since moving from our prior provider. Content of the site, just as reported last year, continues to be lacking freshness – your photos, articles, and calendar events continue to be sought. Every issue of the BOD minutes continues this plea – so please help.

As I recommended last year and again recommend this year, don't sit back and watch others work to keep your Club in the forefront of the hobby. Get involved in the Club, the Region and even in the national and international activities of our hobby! It's a wonderful feeling to help this organization grow while meeting others who share a common interest.

Again, I'd like to thank all the members who voted to return me to the office of Secretary year after year in contested elections, or by allowing me to stand for election uncontested. As stated before, I thank all for the opportunity to serve the Club in 2010, and hope to continue serving you in this role in the future.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/ Eugene A. Mikijanic
Secretary 2010

Calendar of upcoming events 2011

Jan 22	Annual Membership Meeting 1:00 PM at the Club/Jan 29 Alt. Date
Jan 22	Board of Directors Reorganization Meeting directly following the Annual Membership Meeting/Jan 29 Alt. Date.
Jan 23	Dover Train-o-Rama Dover H.S. Dover, NJ
Jan 29 &30	Amherst Rwy. Soc. RR. Hobby Show Eastern States Exposition Fairgrounds West Springfield, MA www.railroadhobbyshow.com
Feb 12&13	World's Greatest Hobby on Tour NJ Expo Ctr. Edison, NJ
Feb 13 and	Garden State Division Winter Meet Annual Business Meeting hosted at the Pacific Southern Rocky Hill Club. www.nergsd.com
Feb 26&27	Spring Thaw Show Allentown, PA www.allentowntrainmeet.com
Jun 21-27	27th National Garden Rwy Convention Kansas City, MO www.NGRC2011.com
Oct 16-19	NER/NMRA convention in Warwick, RI www.nernmra.org
Oct 27-30	MER Convention Cary, NC. Mer.nmra.org

ATTENTION MEMBERS:

Please make sure you keep your contact information current. Any address changes or other updated information should be written legibly on a piece of paper and dropped in the mail slot in the lobby of the Club building, attention "Roster Clerk." Thank You.

Bill Jambor, Roster Clerk

PRELIMINARY ANNUAL SHOW REPORT

Our roving reporter was able to get the following *very* preliminary information from an anonymous source in the Club office that the 2010 Annual Show had "about" 2026 PAID GUESTS which generated gross revenues of "about" \$12,500. This unidentified source suggested that, after all expenses are deducted, this might work out to "about" \$8,100. Thanks to all who helped!

The Model Railroad Club, Inc. Founder: Paul Mallery (1918-2004)

Board of Directors:

President:	Carlos Langezaal
Vice-President: <i>Development Dept.</i>	Bob Nalbone
Treasurer:	John Wilkens
Secretary:	Gene Mikijanic
Director: Building Department	Thomas Voytac
Director: <i>Membership Department</i>	Russ Fiero
HO Department.	Peter Ezzard
N Department.	John Cicero
Garden Railroad Department	Roger Oliver

Club Functionaries:

Government Liaison:	Bill Franklin
Office Manager:	Bill Jambor
Club Librarians:	Roger Oliver
	Russ Fiero
	Brian Cicero

Associate Librarian

Security Chairman:	Tom Voytac
Civil Engineer:	Rich Cornell
Club Architect:	vacant
Club Architect Emeritus:	John Morris
Club Construction Supervisor:	Paul Preuss

Activity Dept. Functionaries:

HO Scale	
Layout Design Committee Chair:	Rich Cornell
Scenery Committee Co-Chair:	John Morris & Ira Deutsch
	Bill Franklin
Electrical Committee Chair:	vacant
Operations Committee Chair:	Russ Fiero
Master Mechanic:	Pete Ezzard
HD&O Superintendent:	Neil Petillo
TN Superintendent:	Jeff Peal
Rahway River Superintendent:	

N Scale

Master Mechanic:	John Cicero
Electrical Dept. Chair:	Ed Fiegler
Scenery Chair:	Claude Kelsoe
Bench work Chair:	vacant

Garden Railroad Department

Master Mechanic/Electrical:	Russ Fiero
Layout Design/Track work:	vacant
Construction/Horticultural:	vacant
Community Outreach:	vacant

Club Mailing Address:

PO Box 1146
Union, NJ 07083-1146

Telephone: (908) 964-9724

Website: www.tmrcki.org

E-mail Addresses:

Board of Directors:	TMRCi_BOD@TMRCi.org
Clearboard Editor:	TMRCi_Clearboard@TMRCi.org
Webmaster:	Webmaster@TMRCi.org

Summary of the Board of Directors Meeting Minutes for November 6, 2010

Summary of the Board of Directors Meeting Minutes for December 18, 2010

2010 Building Department Annual Report

This year has been a successful, if uneventful year for the building department. There were no major problems or repairs that had to be undertaken this year. Main issues were as follows:

1. Sprinkler system was flooded during a routine reboot of the controller system due to an error on the part of the service tech. This flooding revealed a leak point in the attic piping over the new area. This was repaired, system drained, and there have been no further problems to my knowledge.
2. Front AC/Heat unit required replacement of the igniter.
3. Little Fred required some work from Ed Figler. In the upcoming spring we will be replacing a valve with his assistance. The condensing coils were cleaned, which resulted in a performance increase for Fred.
4. Attic ventilation fan located over the N-Scale area was replaced with a new unit. It appears to be functioning well.

Various other smaller repairs have been performed by myself and others throughout the year. Thanks to all who have been a part of maintaining our building.

New projects will be laid out for completion in 2011. Some of them are new and others are not as new as we would like them to be. Here is a list of upcoming projects:

1. Repair of roof in back. This longstanding problem will require a lot of work from members or enough donations to hire a contractor. Volunteers/donors are encouraged to help out.
2. Removal of small and large containers. These will have to be emptied before they can be scrapped. Dumpsters for the unwanted contents will have to be procured and volunteers enlisted to do the work.
3. Signal erection is another hot topic this year. Before signals are standing it makes most sense to have them scraped and painted. Any basic repairs should be performed at this time. A nice spring/summer project.
4. Cleanout and reorganization of under layout storage. This area has become cramped with strange and useless items that have no need to be at the club. If you are aware of any items fitting the aforementioned description, please remove them or ask someone to remove them for you!

Various repairs are always needed. If you are in need of some fulfilling work to do around the club on a Saturday, let me know and I am sure I can come up with the right project for you!

Again, my thanks goes out to all who helped this year to keep the building running smoothly.

Thomas Voytac 01/03/2011



Ira and Doc working together on some of the finishing touches of the Gilberton Roundhouse and the tracks that run past or service it. The roundhouse itself is the centerpiece of the Gilberton Divisional Yard. It will be the major repair and service facility for the HD&O. It shows the scale of the railroad well. Nice job guys.

Staff Photo

The Model Railroad Club, Inc.

Year-end 2010 Annual Membership Meeting Proposed Agenda

(Constitution Article V - Section 1)

Scheduled - January 22, 2011 / Rain Date – January 29, 2011
Meeting time 1:00pm EST

Quorum Required: 20 members

(Constitution Article V - Section 4)

Roberts Rules of Order to Govern (Constitution Article V - Section 7)

1. Review/approval of the minutes of Jan. 2010 Annual Membership Meeting
2. Minutes also Published in the Clearboard January 2011
3. Appointment of Parliamentarian for this meeting (Constitution Article V - Section 8)
4. Report of Officers 2010/2011
 President – C.Langezaal
 Vice President – R.Nalbhone
 Secretary - E.Mikijanic
 Treasurer – J.Wilkens
5. Reports of Departments / Committees (Constitution Article VI)
 Building Department – T.Voytac
 Membership Department – R.Fiero
 Development Department – R.Nalbhone
 Standing Committees:
 Security Department
 Auditing Committee – See below.
 Workshop Committee
 Dues Advisory Committee
 Activity Departments – 2010 Chairpersons:
 HO Department – P.Ezzard
 N Department – J.Cicero
 Garden Department – R.Oliver
6. Auditing Committee Report

Old Business

7. Report of Nominating Committee
8. Elections of (four) Officers and (two) Directors.

New Business

9. 2011 Budget Report
10. 2011 Show Committee
11. Honorariums – Membership Recognitions
12. Other –
13. Adjournment.

**Minutes of the Annual Membership Meeting on January 23, 2010 of
The Model Railroad Club, Inc.**

2010 Annual Report of the Vice President

During the course of the year ending December 31, 2010, I discharged the duties of Vice President as prescribed in Article III, Section 5 of the Constitution of The Model Railroad Club, Inc. Specifically, I attended meetings of the Board of Directors and, when required, substituted for the President in presiding over these meetings. Additionally, as a duly authorized officer of the corporation I signed checks during the course of the recently completed year as part of regular business activities necessary for the organization's daily operations.

As Vice President, I was assigned the duties of Development Department Head. I fulfilled all requirements of the department as specified in the appropriate sections of the Bylaws, including the submission of written reports to the Board of Directors outlining the activities of the department. A separate annual report for the Development Department will be prepared and submitted to the Board of Directors, and made available to the membership. All other specified requirements were also met.

I also served as a voting member on the Dues Advisory Committee. This committee met only once during 2010. The Club's Bylaws require the committee to meet twice a year.

Work on the Club library slowed down somewhat in 2010. Co-librarians Roger Oliver and Russ Fiero have been occupied with other Club responsibilities – a situation all too common in volunteer-based organizations. I am pleased that Brian Cicero has been added to the library staff. I look forward to renewed progress in this important area in 2011. Organizationally, the library is under the office of the vice-president. Its funding is entirely through cash donations.

Continuing a theme I first wrote about in my 2006 Annual Report, the Club's corporate structure remains in serious need of reorganization. Although some work was done toward reorganization in 2010, the effort stalled. I again renew my call for the creation of a new Education Department that will have the responsibility of furthering and administering the Club's educational activities. If I remain on the Board, and if I am part of the senior leadership team, I will continue to actively lobby for this in the reorganization. The membership is once again reminded that becoming an educational organization was the basis for our application to the IRS as a 501c(3) tax-exempt organization.

I also wrote in 2006, and repeat emphatically here (as I did in previous reports), that more membership mentoring and involvement in Club administrative tasks must be priorities for the Board of Directors. Office and business functions are essential to the competent management of the Club. Unfortunately, the office infrastructure is in a virtual state of collapse, and requires immediate attention. The situation is unacceptable.

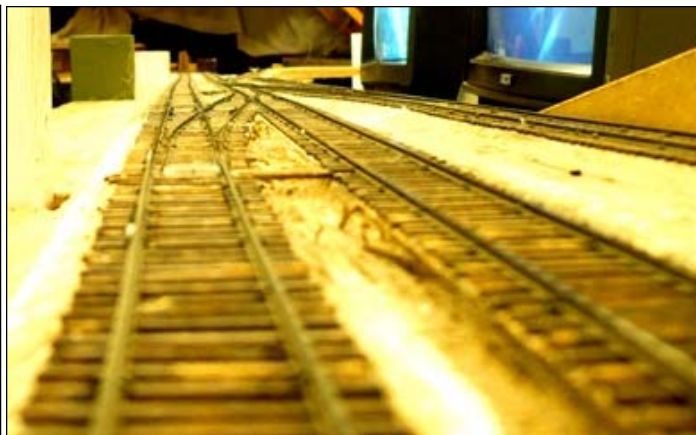
Financially, the Club had a successful year, despite the still shaky economy. The Treasurer's report contains specific information, but suffice to say that the effort by your Board of Directors to control expenses was the reason the Club recorded a surplus for 2010.

I thank the membership for the privilege of serving the Club in this capacity and thank my friends and colleagues on the Board of Directors for their assistance and consideration. I also thank all who provided me with assistance in 2010. I look forward to serving the Club in the future.

Respectfully Submitted,
Robert L. Nalbano, Jr.
Vice President

CLUB SHIRTS

John Wilkens is taking prepaid orders for club polo shirts. Cost is \$30.00 per shirt. Shirts will be blue polo style shirt with white club logo. See John for more information and to place your order.



Is this track straight?

