



The
CLEARBOARD

The Official Publication of The Model Railroad Club, Inc

Hudson, Delaware & Ohio Railroad
Trenton Northern Transportation & Light Company
Rahway River Railroad
Mauch Chunk Terminal Railroad
Jersey Shore & Western Railroad
Public Service Interurban Rapid Transit Company

“Information and Ideas, By and For Our Members.”

Issue # 481

May, 2008



The nose of a Trenton Northern (former Pacific Electric) interurban peeks out from behind some trees while laying over in Northampton, PA. The TN's yard adjoins the backyard of "Jenny's Farm." Photo by Carlos Langezaal.

The CLEARBOARD

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- The Board of Director's requires all articles to be bylined. No anonymous submissions will 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 either side.
- If you submit an article by disk, we prefer Word 2000 format, but we can use submissions saved as text files.
- Include, if possible, a hard copy of the article. If we destroy your disk, we are willing to put in the effort to retype your article if we have something to type from.
- You may email articles to:
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Scanning services for photographs are available. Submit photographs in *The Clearboard* editor's mail box .
- 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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ATTENTION MEMBERS:

Please make sure you keep your contact information current. Write (legibly, please) any address changes or other updated information on a piece of paper and drop it in the mail slot in the lobby of the Club building, attention "Roster Clerk." Thank You.

*Bill Jambor,
Roster Clerk*

Clearboard Commentary

By Bob Nalbone, Vice President

Club Potpourri

The spring Campaign21 fundraising drive is in full swing. In April, President Langezaal wrote a letter to the membership, thanking us for our past support and asking for financial contributions to help keep the Club on a firm financial footing. If you haven't made your tax-deductible cash donation yet, I encourage you to do so. We've set a modest goal of \$3,000 for this year and we're nearly half-way there already. A big "Thank You" to those who have contributed.

This month, the Campaign21 appeal moved into the public domain in the form of a direct mailing to a select number of individuals and families on our mailing list. The goal is to raise \$10,000. This will be a very challenging goal to meet because due to cost considerations, the mailing has to be broken down into several phases. Phase I of the mailing (six hundred names) will be completed by the time you read this. How many names on the list will be reached has not yet been decided, but it will probably not be more than around two thousand, which is considerably less than the total number of names on the list. I'm not too happy about this, but there is only so much Club money to go around. Hopefully the appeal will be successful enough to provide some additional funding to keep it going.

On another front, I am pleased to announce that Roger Oliver and Russ Fiero have agreed to become the Club's librarians. Roger and Russ have been busy building their work station and it should be completed in a few weeks. Then they can start cataloging and properly storing and caring for the wealth of information that has been tucked away all over the building for years (and therefore, essentially useless). I can't wait to have this resource available!

The 9th Annual Invitational Operations Day is Saturday, June 21. No work that day—just fun and fellowship. I hope you can make it.

Finally on a personal note, I want to thank all who offered their kind words and well-wishes as a result of my mother's death in March. I also want to thank my fellow members on the Board of Directors for their support. It really meant a lot to me and my sister and our family.

end

The Model Railroad Club, Inc.

Founder: Paul Mallery (1918-2004)

Board of Directors:

President:	Carlos Langezaal
Vice-President:	Bob Nalbone
<i>Development Dept. Head</i>	
Treasurer:	John Wilkens
Secretary:	Gene Mikijanac
Director:	Mike Briante
<i>Building Dept. Head</i>	
Director:	Dick Kunig
<i>Membership Dept. Head</i>	
HO Dept. Head:	Martin Harris
N Dept. Head:	Eric Callender

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Office Manager:	Bill Jambor
Club Librarians:	Roger Oliver & Russ Fiero
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Club Architect:	Mike Briante
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Club Construction Supervisor:	Paul Preuss

Activity Dept. Functionaries:

HO Scale

Layout Design Committee Chair:	Rich Cornell
Scenery Committee Co-Chair:	John Morris & Ira Deutsch
Electrical Committee Chair:	Bill Franklin
Operations Committee Chair:	Mike Briante
Master Mechanic:	Ed Van Savage
HD&O Superintendent:	Pete Ezzard
TN Superintendent:	Neil Petillo
Rahway River Superintendent:	Jeff Peal

N Scale

Master Mechanic:	John Cicero
Electrical Dept. Chair:	Mark Juchniewicz
Scenery Chair:	Claude Kelsoe
Benchwork Chair:	Stephen Lawler

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Jersey Shore & Western Railroad Company News

By Eric Callender

On-going work in our Department includes installation of track work in the Buffalo Steel Mill area, repair of track toward the proposed lower back storage area; completion of scenery in the Palmyra/back side of Lebanon area, relocation of the PSIRT trolley service, installation of the Faller bus-system, and completion of the N-Track module. Additionally, there is the normal construction/maintenance work required to keep our layout running. I recommend all eligible members apply for building access so we can efficiently move ahead with our work.

At the current time operations are scheduled for the last Tuesday of each month and anticipated to increase in frequency as operational issues and systems are coordinated and member participation increases. All Club members are invited to participate.

I would like to thank John Cicero and Claude Kelsoe for their work repairing dropped leads and track on the layout. And also I thank all the other members for running trains for the general public, cleaning up the club, and for other work on our layout.

Find below a general schedule for proposed N-Scale activities:

June 21, 2008	-	Club Invitational Operating Session
June 25-29, 2008	-	N-Trak module to Louisville, Ky. for the N-Scale Convention
July 12, 2008	-	N-Scale Steam Day and Bar-B-Que
August 9-10, 2008	-	N-Trak module to Raritan Center in Edison, N.J.
August 17, 2008	-	Club Prep. for Annual Show.
Fall 2008	-	Possible Fall Foliage Trip to Port Jervis, NY.
November 14, 2008	-	Completion of Show preparation and Local NJT- MTA – Light Rail- NJT trip.

Finally, I must remind all members to keep their dues responsibilities current.

HO Department News

By Martin Harriss

The construction crews are now well into the helix project. Paul Preuss and Jeff Peal have installed the bottom layer of helix benchwork, and a donation of track and switches has been made that will allow track laying to begin soon. If you're interested in donating even a few pieces of track, please see either myself or Bob Nalbene. Meanwhile, Rich Cornell and crew are still hard at work laying track at the east end of Gilberton to allow access to the new turntable, the latter being worked on by Ira Deutsch. For those unfamiliar with this project, when it is finished it will allow us to remove the temporary Gilberton turntable, which in turn will allow us to proceed with the construction of the Gilberton hump yard and associated yard trackage.

Bill Franklin and his crew continue to perform sterling work on maintaining the layout. Bill is also working out the final kinks in the new Gilberton passenger station, even as Tuesday night operations have started to use the station tracks.

Finally, for those of you wondering about the now overdue HO Department meeting, I must apologize for the fact that the scheduling demons seem to have got in the way of organizing this event. The current plan is to have the meeting on Saturday, June 7th at 4:00pm in the meeting area of the Club building. Please mark your calendars.

Summary of the May 10, 2008 BOD Meeting

The BOD meeting was opened by President Carlos Langezaal @ 4:02 pm with quorum present. The minutes of the March 8, 2008 BOD meeting were read by those present today. Motion was made to accept those amended (see below) minutes by Nalbhone and seconded by Harriss. There were no dissenting votes from those present at the subject meeting and at the time of the vote today. Motion to accept the proposed agenda submitted by the Secretary was offered by Nalbhone and seconded by Jambor as augmented with 3 topics added and 1 removed.

Reports –

Building Department Report – Mike presented written reports with highlights including:

- The trailer – Nobody wants the trailer... Issue tabled until funds are available to get rid of it.
- Fire System Compressor – less often kick-in of compressor. Preuss to determine where leaking.
- Fire Drill SOP – Kung reports that he has completed approximately 80% (still) of an SOP on how to react to a Fire Alarm activation. This will not include the actual system manual.
- Video cameras by Union County – Installed and active.
- Concrete pipe / Site clean-up – Still needs to be broken-up - Briante to coordinate.
- File cabinet for the Secretary – Briante to address w/Security bottom hasp still not working.

Development Report – Reports were delivered by Bob Nalbhone. Saturday admissions remain ahead of last years tracking, but there was a bit of a drop off on the recent month compared to equal time. No questions from the floor.

Treasurers Report – Treasurer John Wilkens delivered a report for the period, but was not present at the meeting, being represented by Proxy – W. Jambor. There were no specific questions from the floor. The Board *still* reminds all that times are lean and that excessive spending should be avoided.

N Scale Report – Eric Callender filed a combined report for the prior months. Details are available independently from the reports. There were no questions from the floor. Eric was reminded that separate reports are needed, one for each month, and on a timely basis for their issuance. Eric reports that an article featuring the N-scale is in process but more information is needed.

HO Department Report – Martin Harriss discussed the activities of the periods passed as covered in his printed report – distributed at the meeting. No outstanding issues were noted. Detailed information is available directly from the HO Scale reports.

Membership Report - Dick Kunig filed a copy of his report for the month of March – with the April report pending hard-copy delivery to the Secretary. Included was a dues report as prepared by Bill Jambor for review by the BOD. Statistics are available directly from the Membership report. No notable highlights were identified from the Chair.

Old Business -

Club Calendars and more - Gene reported that few or no items were submitted for update since the last BOD meeting. Briante submitted a new HO video, and in the April monthly report Harriss reported the date for the next HO Department Meeting – June 7.

Server/Donation – No activity for the period. None was anticipated. Topic being dropped until the anticipated donation arrives.

Website costs – We continue to consume about 800 Mb of disk space plus varying space used by our mail accounts. Martin is to investigate additionally – topic continues as tabled. Separately, the host

(Continued on next page)

BOD Meeting (Cont'd from pg. 5)

(service) may be changed based on e-mail threads between (Mark) our sub-host and Gene due to operational issues. FTP services are currently not working based on issues from the host. More information to follow .

Membership Involvement Committee – Topic dropped from future exploration.

Personal Storage – Briante assigned to inventory any item that is considered non-Club owned materials, and that are not secured in a locker or other closed storage area. Callender and Harriss volunteered to assist. Harriss recited a number of points that he had crafted as a preliminary policy on Personal Storage. Gene raised the question as to how we separate space used for storage of personal materials used for the benefit of the entire Club, vs. compared to space for truly personal use – e.g. Tools, vs. DCC Hand Controller. Points for expansion of the document were made, noted and will result in an enhancement from Martin.

Crossing Gates – Pending Spring 2008 donation by M&E. Topic being dropped from further reporting until donation arrives. May be an issue in valuation of the donation. Nalbome to resolve this possibility. Many different points of discussion were started, including permissions from the County, power, etc... by Briante and others. Digging of the hold, pouring of any concrete, and other issues were part of the discussion. Briante will discuss with Bill Franklin who is both liaison to the M&E and the County.

New Business -

New Members/Actions – Three candidates were presented for consideration for membership. Dennis Collins (HO) was accepted by unanimous vote. The other two applications were tabled.

Bylaws – Motion to accept the proposal by Briante for Bylaw changes to address addition of positions to the positions within the Building Department – recalled from the table by Kunig, motioned by Jambor seconded by Nalbome. There being no Nay votes cast and only one Abstention (Callender) the motion is considered passed. Bylaw proposal had been previously posted in the Clearboard as required. This was 2nd reading.

Budget for Building Department Budget increase – Wilkens proposed by submission via e-mail an increase of budget for Building Department by \$1200 to a total of \$1700 and a Capital budget of \$500 for the HVAC system. Motion made by Jambor, seconded by Nalbome for acceptance of the proposal – votes cast did not include any Nays or Abstentions and therefore the motion was considered passed unanimously.

Mallery Trophy – Nalbome spoke about the Mallery Trophy, presented by the Garden State Division, NER, NMRA for excellence in modeling skills. The trophy is to be on display at the Club permanently. The trophy was previously known as the Delaware II Award. Briante will work with Nalbome to create an appropriate secure display location.

Annual Show – Who is on the Committee? Nobody was assigned. Time sensitive materials that needed to be updated or distributed were already done. Nalbome is to coordinate people to get a meeting together and discuss where we are at the next BOD meeting (June 28).

Dues Advisory Committee – April Meeting – President noted that the Dues Advisory Committee did not meet as per the requirement. President to coordinate the meeting ASAP. Harriss / Nalbome will craft a Bylaw change to establish the requirement that the membership representatives are persons not otherwise holding an office. Proposal to be submitted for review, posting and possible acceptance at a future BOD meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:05 PM. The next meeting of the Board is June 28, 2008 at 4 pm.

end

Campaign21SM

Funding a New Century of Excellence

Have you made your
contribution yet?

Please...

**Do your part to help keep the
building and grounds clean.**

Mark your calendar ...

The

Model Railroad Club, Inc.TM

**9th ANNUAL
INVITATIONAL OPERATING SESSION!**

SATURDAY June 21, 2008

Doors open 11 AM

Operating sessions Noon - 3 PM, 5 - 8 PM

Barbeque between sessions (weather permitting)

Clearboard Deadlines:

June 2008 Issue: June 14. Publication on or about June 28

July 2008 Issue: July 12. Publication on or about July 26.

THE CLEARBOARD

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