



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.”

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The NJS&W Harbor with freight lined up. Photo by Carlos Langezaal.

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SUBMITTING ARTICLES and EDITORIAL POLICY

The Editors of *The Clearboard* welcome articles and photographs submitted by members. We will try to publish articles in a timely manner. 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. 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 cr1hk@comcast.net. Scanning services for photographs are available. Submit photographs in *The Clearboard* editor's 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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Clearboard Commentary By Carlos Langezaal

The Clearboard is a newsletter for and by members. Following several contributions in the earlier months that I have been the Editor, the stream has dried up in the last two months. This results in a thinner Clearboard, but also in a very limited issue for public access on our website. Numerous members have a knowledge of various things that have to do with trains and could be shared with the public, e.g. visits to train shows, other lay-outs, lay-out design etc. Whereas the November/December issue will be mainly focused on activities around the annual meeting in January, I welcome contributions for upcoming issues. You can give them to me in various ways described in the left hand column.

This issue covers the usual NJS&W column by Jack Grasso, an updated schedule for the workshops, a commentary by Bob Nalbone, and summary of BOD meeting and the financials.

In November and December, we have our annual show. Let's all put our shoulders together and make it a great success for the club.

Carlos

Account names has changed for e-Mail contact to "the Club". New Account is TMRCInc@Yahoo.com. Other accounts have been established and are detailed on the Contacts page of the website.

Have You Moved?????

Clearboard labels are printed every month. If you have moved, please notify us as soon as possible so we can adjust your address.

Thank you.

FIRE PREVENTION

Please refrain from depositing trash in the bucket containing sand located outside the building. This should be used for putting out cigarettes only. Your cooperation will help prevent fires. Thank you.

JERSEY SHORE & WESTERN NEWS The N-Scale Report

Jack Grasso

It's coming up to show time and work on the layout is progressing. Wiring of the upper level and general cleaning are in progress. The buildings in our city area are being rearranged. Every year, the N-Scale becomes a more important part of the show and this year is no different.

Erie Lackawanna GP-7 # 1405 (Torpedo Tube) is now in the shop for conversion to DCC. It will join an Erie GP-7 and a NYC Geep 7 in our operating fleet. This coming year will see 2 additional Erie GP-7s, a Western Pacific GP-7, and a New York Central torpedo tubed GP-9 converted. Other N-Scale locomotives, mentioned in this column, should be on the DCC line this year after an overload from us and other departments.

The column for a commercial magazine on the JS&W-PSIRT is being held up as some details on railroad routes have to be discussed at our annual meeting. After that the article should be written and sent.

As has been the case for the past seasons, this will be the last JS&W News for this year as showtime is approaching. We will be back with you in 2004. Have a nice holiday season and see you in 2004.



Operations Workshop Series

By Bob Nalbone

In November and December, Bob Nalbone will offer to members a series of introductory, 90 minutes to 2-hour instructor led program.

One of the purposes of this program, as well as the other programs in this series – aside from the acquisition of knowledge, a laudable goal in and of itself – is to re-establish the seniority and qualifications systems that were commonplace on the Hudson, Delaware & Ohio Railroad for decades, but were allowed to fall by the wayside in more recent times. Many long-time members who regularly operate have noted and complained about the deterioration of the quality of the operating sessions, compared to earlier times. The abolishment of the seniority list and the lack of a coherent qualifications program were cited as major contributing factors to the decline of the sessions.

Participation in this program is a pre-requisite for qualifying for any operating position on the HD&O. Participation is optional, however members that participate will be granted “bumping rights” over those members who do not participate (and are, therefore, “unqualified”) for all operating positions.

Participation in the programs does not, however, guarantee qualification. Members will have to demonstrate an ability to apply what is presented in these programs during actual operating sessions at specific positions, for a prescribed period of time. Additionally, attendance at operating sessions will be used to make up the seniority list, similar to the system employed on the Trenton Northern.

The goal is not to have reasons to exclude anyone from operating, but rather to ensure that those members who show a strong interest in operations are able to enjoy themselves to the extent possible, to educate members who have an interest in realistic operations but who are inexperienced an opportunity to learn the ropes and become qualified and to ensure that the operating sessions embrace the intent and spirit of the preamble to the Club constitution.

A schedule is provided below. All workshops will be held in the downstairs meeting room (dates and venue subject to change). The series is open to all members in good standing.

Rule Book & Time Table*	December 20 December 27	1:30 – 3:00 PM 7:00 – 8:30 PM
Tower Operations	November 8	1:30 – 3:00 PM 7:00 – 8:30 PM
Train Operations	November 15	1:30 – 3:00 PM 7:00 – 8:30 PM
Terminal & Yard Operations	December 20	7:00 – 8:30 PM
Dispatching	December 27	1:30 – 3:00 PM

* Pre-requisite for attending all other workshops.

Pre-registration is encouraged and a sign-up sheet will be available at the club.