

# Susquehanna Sidetracks



Official Publication of the Susquehanna Division 11  
of the Mid-Eastern Region,  
National Model Railroad Association

August 2002  
Volume 10, Number 4

Please visit the Official Division web site at <http://moosevalley.org/nmra/index.htm>

I hope that you are enjoying your summer. While most of us take a break during the summer months to spend time with our families and do work around the house, most of the model railroad manufactures have been hard at work releasing new products and announcing upcoming products. The best part about these new releases is they are not just limited to modern equipment. Now if I can just come up with the money to buy everything that I would like to own.

## Officers Election & Bylaws

On Page 4 you will find the updated proposal to the Division Bylaws. In order for them to be put into effect, we need the approval of the division membership. A ballot has been included in the newsletter for you to vote on the new Bylaws. Also on this ballot is the Division Offices that are up for elections -Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent, and Chief Clerk. The current officers are running unopposed, but the division membership approval is

needed. Please take a moment to fill the ballot out and return it no later than September 30<sup>th</sup>. We have even included the postage!

## Next Division Meet Scheduled

The next Division 11 meet is scheduled for Saturday, September 14, 2002 from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM. This is the first division meet we have scheduled for the fall, so make plans now to attend the meet and take time to catch up with your fellow division members. For more information and directions, please see page 3.

The Division officers would like to get your feedback as to the best time of day to hold our Division meets and which Saturday of the month will work best. Knowing this information will help us schedule our Division meets at the best possible time so the majority of the division membership can attend. We also welcome any suggestions you would have for our meets and if you are willing to host one.

## Division Financial Report

On page 7 you will find the Division's Revenue and Expense Statement - Cash Basis for the Fiscal Year July 1, 2001 to June 30, 2002 as provided by the Division's Chief Clerk. This report is being published so every division member has an understanding of the division's financial status. If you have any questions about this report, please feel free to contact Paul Tice (Chief Clerk) or any of the other division officers. The information to contact them can be found on page 2 of every issue of *Susquehanna SideTracks*.

## Division Events

Cherry Hill Depot  
MER Fall Convention  
Cherry Hill, NJ  
October 4-6, 2002

Great Scale Model Train Show  
Timonium, MD  
October 12-13, 2002  
9 AM - 4 PM Saturday  
10 AM - 4 PM Sunday  
[www.gsmts.com](http://www.gsmts.com)

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Susquehanna Division 11,  
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**Submissions:** The Susquehanna Sidetracks welcomes any model railroad or railroad related material. Members are encouraged to send in articles, letters to the editor, reviews, etc.

## Super's Corner - Brian Brandt

Greetings. First, I would like to apologize for the lack of communication over the past few months. My personal life has gone through a lot of change. I hope you have had a better summer.

But, now we go on. First we have some housekeeping issues to get done. One is our By-laws. We have conditional approval from the Region. We just have to approve them. Second, is our officers for the next two years. We had no other nominations for the three offices open, so we have the same crew again. Our first meet of the season is back in Columbia Pa. I am involved in both restoring and creating a layout for an Historical group there. We have one gentleman that can re-create the buildings from photos. I think that those that were there two years ago will see a big change.

I also want to thank Mel Agne for his hospitality back in April. I had a great time there. I also learned how a railroad is run. I am planning to go to the next MER Convention. Hope to see you there or at Columbia.

## Comments from Your Assistant Superintendent and AP Chairman - Jim Atkinson

Due to other commitments, I missed the MER Convention in Richmond. I heard it was a good show. This is the first MER convention that I've missed in eight years. I encourage you to attend the upcoming Convention in Cherry Hill, New Jersey. Between the convention activities and meeting many modelers just like yourself, you will enjoy yourself. Considering what three day weekends generally cost, our conventions aren't that expensive.

I have been very busy lately, between my occupation and my other hobby, I to I scale fire trucks. Since building my new garage in early spring, I've been doing some work on both my 1937 and 1961 model fire trucks. I just started a major restoration on the '37 that will probably take two years.

Along those lines, if any of you would like to properly model some fire trucks for your layout, I'd be glad to lend my assistance. There are many fine models in HO, S, 0, G (standard), and G (Narrow gage) available today. Detailing them for the proper period is easy if you have the necessary information. I have an extensive library and photo collection to help you in the process. Call me. For G gagers (1/25 scale), Road Signatures has a beautiful 1938 Ford pumper available now at about \$50. Boley is producing an extensive selection of modern HO fire trucks at reasonable prices and available now. Code Three has a wide variety of beautiful S gage fire trucks on the market covering the 1950's to present. Corgi produces a nice line of 0 gage trucks covering several eras. And this is only a partial list of nice die cast models available. Wouldn't a nicely detailed fire station with apparatus or a fire scene look good on your layout? But, please, keep those German and English fire trucks off your American layouts.

I still owe some of you some AP recognition or creditation. Please contact me and bare with me. Thank you.

We usually find other things to keep us busy during the summer, as I have, but with this series of heat waves, I have found myself retreating to my cool basement a few evenings, just to relax and run some trains for an hour or so. I don't doubt a few of you have too.

Susquehanna Division 11 is pleased to announce the next division meet will be held at Columbia Historical Society's HO scale railroad on Saturday, September 14, 2002 from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM. Planned activities include a brief division meet to bring everyone up to date on what is going on in the division, a clinic by Tony Segro on scratch building structures with styrene, and a possible visit to a restored Philadelphia and Reading freight shed that was finished last year.

### Description of the Columbia Historical Society Railroad:

The Columbia Historical Society's HO railroad is based on old Columbia circa 1925-1940. It is a U shaped railroad approximately 24 feet wide by 35 feet long. Digitrax DCC is used to control the trains on the layout. About a third of the railroad is scenic and most of the structures are scratched built. For some photos of the layout and of Tony Segro's scratched build structures, visit the division web site at <http://moosevalley.org/nmra/index.htm> and click the link for Division Events.

### DIRECTIONS:

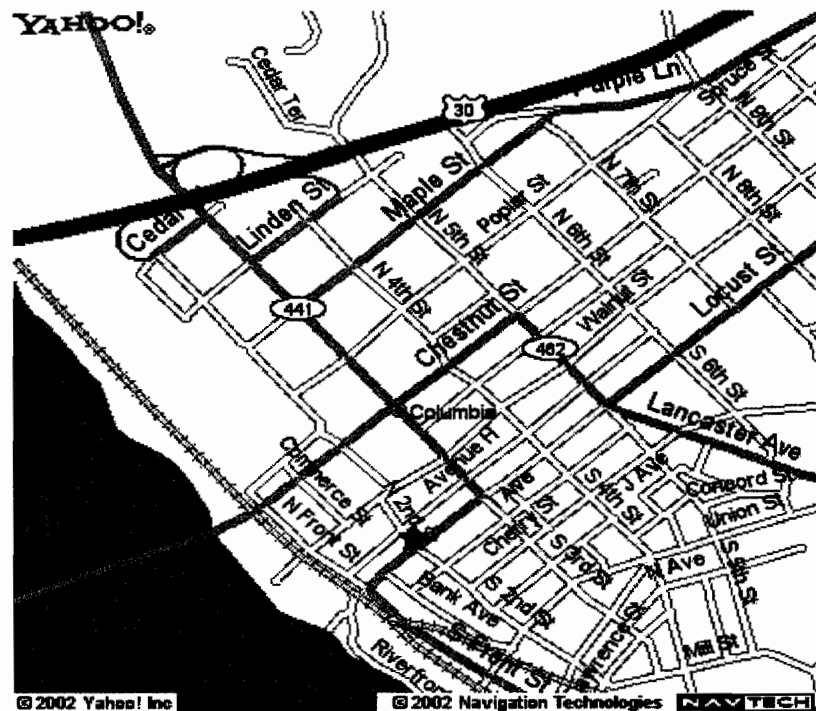
#### From York:

Take Route 30 East towards Lancaster. Just after you cross the Susquehanna River, take the exit for Route 441 - Columbia/Marietta. Turn right onto Linden Street. Turn left onto Route 441 South/North 3<sup>rd</sup> Street. Turn right onto Locust Street/Route 441 South. Go 1 block to 2<sup>nd</sup> Street and turn right. The Historical Society is in an old church on the right hand side.

#### From Lancaster:

Take Route 30 West towards York. Take the exit for Route 441 - Columbia/Marietta. Turn left onto Route 441 South/North 3<sup>rd</sup> Street. Turn right onto Locust Street/Route 441 South. Go 1 block to 2<sup>nd</sup> Street and turn right. The Historical Society is in an old church on the right hand side.

Columbia Historical Society  
19 N 2nd St  
Columbia, PA



**BY-LAWS of the SUSQUEHANNA DIVISION, DIVISION 11 of the  
MID-EASTERN REGION of the NATIONAL MODEL RAILROAD ASSOCIATION**

**ARTICLE 1 - Preamble**

THE SUSQUEHANNA DIVISION #11 of the Mid-Eastern Region of the National Model Railroad Association, serves to promote the hobby of model railroading through educational, fellowship, and historical activities in accordance with the policies and actions of the MER, NMRA.

The Susquehanna Division shall include the area of Pennsylvania bounded to the east by the Philadelphia Division, to the south by the South Mountain Division, to the west by Mid-Central Region, and to the north by the Northeast Region and the Niagara Frontier Region, as specifically determined by the MER and NMRA.

**ARTICLE 2 - Membership and Dues**

REGULAR membership in the Susquehanna Division shall be given upon receipt of an application and yearly dues to anyone with an interest in model railroading, without discrimination. Regular members must be members of the MER and NMRA. Regular members shall have full voting rights and the right to hold any division office.

GUEST privileges will be granted to model railroaders, without discrimination, in the Susquehanna Division to encourage their participation in the Division's, Region's, and NMRA's activities. A time limit of six months shall exist for guest privileges. At that time, the Division will encourage the Guest to become a full Regular member. Guests will have no voting rights with Division 11, nor will they be allowed to hold any offices or any committee chair positions.

MEMBERSHIP privileges may be terminated upon written resignation, non-payment of dues, by two-thirds vote of the entire membership responding to the ballot, or failure to maintain proper membership requirements as determined by the Board of Directors.

DUES for regular members shall be determined by the membership and be enough to cover our basic organizational costs, primarily the Division news letter, SUSQUEHANNA SIDETRACKS.

**ARTICLE 3 - Officers**

OFFICERS of the Susquehanna Division shall consist of: the Superintendent (with duties as president), Assistant Superintendent (with duties as vice-president), and Chief Clerk (with duties as secretary and treasurer). They shall be elected for a two year term in Spring of even-numbered years, actually holding office from July 1 of the first year to June 30 of the second year. There will be three (3) Directors (with duties as assigned by the Superintendent). They shall be elected one every year for a three year term in the Spring, actually holding office from July 1 of the first year to June 30 of the third year. All Officers and Board members have full voting rights at all meetings. All officers and board members must be members of the Susquehanna Division 11, the MER, and the NMRA.

The Chief Clerk shall keep an account of all funds received and dispersed, render a proper accounting for these funds at the annual business meeting, make books available for an annual audit by a properly qualified member of the Susquehanna Division #11 as appointed by the Superintendent and prior to each time any Chief Clerk

leaves office. The Chief Clerk shall be Bonded by Division 11 in regards to their activities as the Division Treasurer. The bond shall cover any and/or properties and monies held by the Treasurer.

The Superintendent shall appoint to fill out the unexpired term of any Board of Directors position subject to the approval of the Board of Directors.

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS shall consists of the elected Officers and three Directors and the Past Superintendent (until he is replaced by the next Past Superintendent) and be chaired by the Superintendent. A member of the Board of Directors only has one vote at a Board meeting or a General meeting. The Board of Directors shall hold legal title of all Susquehanna Division #11 property and monies in trust for it's members.

COMMITTEES: The Superintendent shall create Committees as needed and shall appoint Committee Chairpersons as required. The Superintendent shall also disband committees and dismiss members as necessary and require reports from committee chairs as necessary..

#### ARTICLES 4 - Conduct and Practices

GENERAL BUSINESS MEETING: There shall be one general business meeting each year in the spring. Business shall be conducted in accordance with Robert's Rules of Order, by Division 11 By-Laws, by MER By-Laws, and any subsequent changes required. Each year by August, the Superintendent will submit an Annual Report to the MER Board and the NMRA on the State-of-the-Division per MER/NMRA requirements. This report will also be made available to the division membership.

MEETINGS: Susquehanna Division #11 will hold a minimum of four meetings a year with a minimum of thirty days notice of each to the members.

The officers and any committees shall do their utmost to arrange and present to the members and the general public programs and activities that promote the hobby of model railroading. They shall work cooperatively with other divisions of the MER, with the MER itself, and with division area Model Railroad Clubs in the planning of model railroading activities.

FISCAL YEAR: The Susquehanna Division #11, shall operate on a fiscal year beginning July 1 and ending June 30 of the following year.

#### ARTICLE 5 - Nominations:

NOMINATIONS for an elected office position may be made by (1) a written submission from any member in good standing to the Nominating Committee or (2) by the Nominating Committee of members in good standing. Nominations are to be published in the division newsletter at least sixty (60) days prior to the election to include a bio-sketch, not to exceed 250 words.

#### ARTICLE 6 - Elections

VOTING/ELECTIONS: Voting shall be by secret ballot of the regular members of Susquehanna Division #11, by mail ballot. Elected positions will be filled by a simple plurality of votes.

**ARTICLE 7 - By-Laws Changes:**

**BY-LAWS:** These By-Laws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the membership responding to the mail ballot. Proposed changes must be published in the division newsletter not less than sixty (60) days prior to any vote. The amendment(s) to take place after approval by the MER Board of Directors.

**ARTICLE 8 - Publications:**

**NEWSLETTER:** The Susquehanna Division #11 shall maintain a publication, **SUSQUEHANNA SIDETRACKS**, to be mailed to all members and guests to keep them informed of division activities. Copies will also be mailed to the Editor of the **MER LOCAL**, other MER division Superintendents or newsletter editors, to the NMRA Library, and the NMRA President.

**ARTICLE 9 - Dissolution:**

**DISSOLUTION of SUSQUEHANNA DIVISION #11:** Upon dissolution of Susquehanna Division #11, all assets must be distributed per the Constitution of the NMRA (Article i, Section 2). If the purpose of the NMRA should change, then the Board of Directors, Susquehanna Division #11, may designate any other model railroad organization(s) that subscribe to the same purposes as fostered by Susquehanna Division #11 to receive the divisions assets.

Proposed Revision 4/6/2002

**MER Fall Convention - October 4-6, 2002 - Cherry Hill, NJ**

The New Jersey Division is proud to announce...



**MER Fall 2002 Convention**

October 4-6, 2002

Clarion Hotel

Cherry Hill, NJ

Clinics, Layout Tours, Auction, Door Prizes  
Homasote Plant Tour, Operations Call Board  
Railfan Trip to Cape May aboard RDC's  
Banquet featuring speaker Steve Barry of *Railfan & Railroad*

<http://home.earthlink.net/~mikemcnh/boxcar/fall02.html>

NATIONAL MODEL RAILROAD ASSOCIATION  
MID-EAST REGION  
SUSQUEHANNA DIVISION #11  
REVENUE AND EXPENSE STATEMENT - CASH BASIS  
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR JULY 1, 2001 TO JUNE 30, 2002

BEGINNING CASH BALANCE - JULY 1, 2001 \$1,297.65

REVENUE FOR THE FISCAL YEAR

SUSQUEHANNA DUES	\$ 124.00
DONATIONS	9.00
CAR SALES & MISC. REVENUE - DUTCH STATION	334.11
INTEREST INCOME	<u>5.93</u>

TOTAL REVENUE RECEIVED 473.04

TOTAL CASH AVAILABLE \$1,770.69

EXPENSES FOR THE FISCAL YEAR

POSTAGE	\$ 129.20
PRINTING SUPPLIES	<u>22.90</u>

TOTAL EXPENSES 152.10

ENDING CASH BALANCE - JUNE 30, 2002 1,618.59

RESTRICTED FUNDS - MAILING PERMIT	\$ 85.00
UNRESTRICTED FUNDS - GENERAL USE	<u>1,533.59</u>

TOTAL 1,618.59

Respectfully Submitted,



Paul F. Tice, P.A.  
Clerk/Paymaster - Susquehanna Division #11

July 18, 2002  
York, Pennsylvania