

# SUSQUEHANNA SIDETRACKS

An Official Publication of the Susquehanna Division,  
Mid-Eastern Region of the NMRA  
Vol 25 No. 3



## From the Superintendent's Desk – Tim Himmelberger

It's May already. I trust that all of you have been making progress on your layouts or model projects. The weather is getting nice and I know that soon it will be harder and harder to get into the basement to work on those projects. Personally, since the April 1<sup>st</sup> open house Josh and I have been busy deconstructing our layout. Rolling stock has all been packed away. To borrow from Dennis Blank, we now have a no rail layout. Some of the platform is already down.

The May 20<sup>th</sup> event will be our last meeting until this fall. Yes, this was by design to allow time to work on preparations for the convention. Please see the article on pages 9 -11 for details on the event in Christiana. I know that this is a busy week with many of you participating at the Pennsy T & HS annual meeting. We will make an extra effort to try and avoid this situation in the future.

The second issue for May is the election of four directors for the division. We have five candidates for the four positions. They are Dave Collison, Pat Mulrooney, Howard Oakes, Lee Rainey and Dave Tillman. Please see the article on pages 4-6 for voting instructions and the candidate's bio's. Voting will be open until the end of May. So please vote early so you do not forget. For the record, we will not let you vote often.

October and the convention are coming up fast. There is still plenty of room for you to help if you have not yet volunteered. Please contact Bob Charles ([rcharles@aol.com](mailto:rcharles@aol.com)) or Brian Kampschroer ([RRelf@aol.com](mailto:RRelf@aol.com)). For those who are volunteering at the convention we are offering you gray high quality cotton polyester blend polo shirts with a pocket. They will be embroidered with the convention logo. They will be offered to the Susquehanna division members at cost. To order your shirt please contact Bob or Brian.

After May, our next division event is the Mainline Hobby Shop Open House tour in September.

However, I should not need to remind you that as a NMRA member you may attend any NMRA event sponsored by any division or region. So, as you travel this summer why not check calendars to see if you have an opportunity to visit with another division or region. If you do let me know and I will be sure to get you some convention fliers to take with you.

*Tim*

## Susquehanna Sidetracks

Official Newsletter of the Susquehanna Division  
 Mid-Eastern Region, NMRA  
 1168 Caspian Drive, York, PA  
 1704

### Contributing to Susquehanna Sidetracks

Sidetracks welcomes contributions from the Division membership. Letters, articles, photos and other items may be sent to the Editor at the e-mail address listed below or the street address above. Deadline for submission for the next issue is June 24, 2017.

### Board of Directors

#### 2016-2018

##### **Superintendent**

Tim Himmelberger  
[timh@susquehannanmra.org](mailto:timh@susquehannanmra.org)

##### **Asst. Superintendent**

Wayne Betty  
[wsb@susquehannanmra.org](mailto:wsb@susquehannanmra.org)

##### **Chief Clerk**

Paul Tice  
[ptice@susquehannanmra.org](mailto:ptice@susquehannanmra.org)

##### **Director**

Barry Schmitt  
[bschmitt@susquehannanmra.org](mailto:bschmitt@susquehannanmra.org)

#### 2015-2017

##### **Director**

Dave Collison  
[dcollison@susquehannanmra.org](mailto:dcollison@susquehannanmra.org)

##### **Director**

Lee Rainey  
[lrainey@susquehannanmra.org](mailto:lrainey@susquehannanmra.org)

##### **Director**

Ron Smith  
[rsmith@susquehannanmra.org](mailto:rsmith@susquehannanmra.org)

##### **Director/Membership Chairman**

Howard Oakes  
[hoakes@susquehannanmra.org](mailto:hoakes@susquehannanmra.org)

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Robert Charles, MMR  
[chair@mer2017.org](mailto:chair@mer2017.org)

#### **Model Showcase Program Chairman**

John Wissinger, MMR  
[jwissinger@susquehannanmra.org](mailto:jwissinger@susquehannanmra.org)

#### **Training Chairman**

Alan Mende  
[amende@susquehannanmra.org](mailto:amende@susquehannanmra.org)

#### **Sidetracks Editor**

Tedd Pounds  
[tpounds@susquehannanmra.org](mailto:tpounds@susquehannanmra.org)

### Membership Information

Susquehanna Division website: Mid-Eastern Region  
 website: [www.susquehannanmra.org](http://www.susquehannanmra.org) [www.mer.nmra.com](http://www.mer.nmra.com)

## National Model Railroad Association

8414 Gulf View Drive, Suite A & B  
 Soddy Daisy, TN 37379-2200  
[www.nmra.org](http://www.nmra.org)

*Cover photo credit: Tedd Pounds- Drone shot of NS tracks at Marysville, Pa*

*Locomotive photos taken by Tedd Pounds at Steamtown, Scranton, Pa*

### Second Section – Tedd Pounds

Hello everyone!

This is my first attempt at editing our newsletter, if you have any suggestions please feel free to let me know.

Material for this month's newsletter was very slow coming in. I received the bulk of it just last week. Please begin thinking about submissions as soon as possible. I travel frequently for work and can be busy.

*Tedd*



### Welcome New Members!

John Groot	Quarryville PA
James Ingram	Williamsport PA
Robert Kester	Macungie PA
Richard Mazzini	New Tripoli PA
John McGrail	Boalsburg PA
Donald Mills	Hellertown PA
Chris Warner	East Berlin PA

# Board of Directors Election

It's May which means it's time to elect four Division Board of Directors (BOD) members for the next two years: July 1, 2017 – June 30, 2019. Our Division by-laws establish a seven-member BOD - three elected Officers (Superintendent, Assistant Superintendent, and Chief Clerk), and four at-large Directors. At-Large Directors are elected to a two-year term in odd-numbered years and hold office from July 1 of that year to June 30 of the following second year. The three BOD Officers are elected to two year terms in even numbered years with our current officers serving the term July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2018.

The five Director candidates and their bio-sketches are presented below in alphabetical order. Their email addresses are provided if you would like to contact them.

Restating the ballot guidance: **you can only vote for four of the five candidates.**

## **Director Candidate Bio-Sketches (in alphabetical order)**

**David Collison** ([dcollison@susquehannanmra.org](mailto:dcollison@susquehannanmra.org)):  
**candidate for re-election as director**

David Collison here, once again asking for your support in the upcoming Susquehanna Division election. I am finishing up my second consecutive term as a Director for the Susquehanna Division and continue to believe that there is more that this division can do for you. Many of you may have seen me serving in the background, operating the audio/video equipment utilized at the division events. When it came time for the division to host the Mid-East Region convention I jumped right in to help by chairing two of the committees for the upcoming event. At the regional level I recently accepted the role of webmaster for the Mid-East Region. In the coming year, I hope to transfer the knowledge learned in that position to improving our own website.

I am an active HO scale modeler of the Livonia, Avon and Lakeville Railroad and have recently made the leap to 1:1 scale with the active restoration of a former Long Island Railroad commuter coach, allowing me to utilize the same leadership skills that helped improve the Short Line Model Railroad Club during my tenure there as both Vice President and President.

I would appreciate your vote allowing me to continue to serve you, the members of the Susquehanna Division for two more years as a Director. I look forward to continuing to work with the other Board members while carrying out the business of the Susquehanna Division.

**Pat Mulrooney** ([padywgn@comcast.net](mailto:padywgn@comcast.net))

I'm 76 years old and started with HO trains around 1950-51. My brother who is 17 years older than I got me started with HO trains when I was 11 or 12 years old. He had been an HO Modeler before going overseas in WWII (he still models in N gauge at 93 years old) My first layout was a large double track dog bone on which I hand laid brass rail over rolls of fiber ties and received a major lesson in derailments. I dropped out of modeling around the time I was 16 years old and my interests changed to cars and girls. After getting married in '61 I always had a Christmas layout but didn't start getting serious about trains until the mid-80's.

## **Pat Mulrooney – continued**

I had a layout at home in Delaware County and another after moving to Lancaster County in 1995. In 2005 we moved to Southern Delaware where I got involved with the Delmarva Model Railroad Club. It was here I was exposed to Operations for the first time and DCC. This is where it started getting expensive! I met many excellent modelers and eventually served three years as President of the Delmarva Club. In 2013 we moved back to New Holland, Lancaster County and I've started on what I hope will be the last Railroad. It's a work in progress, started in June of 2014 with a long way to go. The time period is the transition from steam to diesel, it's called the Bethel, Susquehanna & Northern, the BS & N, Some refer to it as the Bull---- & Nonsense. I enjoy it and hope to see it near complete, though I guess I'm running out of time. I've enjoyed being a part of the NMRA and our division and hope to be able to contribute in any way I can. Thanks for listening.

## **Howard Oakes ([hoakes@susquehannanmra.org](mailto:hoakes@susquehannanmra.org)): candidate for re-election as director**

I have been involved with model railroading since the 1970's and have been serving as a director and the membership chairman of Division 11 for several years. I receive the monthly membership list and contact each new member to welcome them to our activities. I undertook the effort to obtain the email address of each member since most of our correspondence is now done via email for expediency and cost reasons.

As a director, I am involved in the planning of the yearly calendar of division events. I was the project officer for last year's Quakertown clinics and layout tours, and am running this year's Christiana PA event. I oversee the Susquehannock convention white elephant, raffle and live auction activities. I have been a member of the B&O and Western Maryland Historical Societies for many years.

I ask for your vote as this division continues to grow and become more active. Every member's voice needs to be heard and the division needs to continue the involvement of members in the outlying areas of the division.

## **Lee Rainey ([lrainey@susquehannanmra.org](mailto:lrainey@susquehannanmra.org)): candidate for re-election as director**

The local NMRA divisions play an important role in building friendships and support groups for modelers, as well as in creating interest in the hobby among the public. As a member of the NMRA off and on since the 1960s (and continuously since 1989), in several different divisions, I have experienced these very tangible benefits personally.

Consequently, I am pleased to have had the opportunity to help return the favor by serving as a Susquehanna Division director. I would welcome your support in the upcoming election to continue in that role. As a director, I will help to ensure a smoothly-running division that supports members in their enjoyment of the hobby.

In addition to my work with the NMRA, I am president of the Friends of the East Broad Top and the leader of their restoration efforts in Rockhill, PA. I also served as the chairman of the 2016 National Narrow Gauge Convention. You may have seen my byline in *Railroad Model Craftsman* and the *Narrow Gauge & Shortline Gazette*. My personal modeling is all in S scale, including standard, 3-foot, and 2-foot gauge prototypes.

**David Tillman ([davetill@ptd.net](mailto:davetill@ptd.net)):**

My name is Dave Tillman and I am pleased to run for the position of Director. I have just recently retired from an active practice working on fuels and combustion at major coal-fired power plants around the country--largely in the Midwest and Southeast. I have been active in model railroading for over 30 years, more focused on modeling of power plants of all kinds and major process industries than on operations. To that end I have been a frequent clinician at national NMRA conventions, and will give two clinics at our regional convention. I am a firm believer that if we are to grow the hobby we must meet modelers where they are (in their train rooms). We must use multi-media approaches to accomplish this. Anyone can contact me at [734-347-2856](tel:734-347-2856) to discuss ideas. If you want to see my layout, it is open to all (and handicap accessible); just call ahead and we can set a time.

**NMRA SUSQUEHANNA DIVISION 11 (MER) 2017 DIRECTOR BALLOT**

Your BOD has approved electronic (email) voting for this election cycle in addition to traditional USPS ballot mailing. You do not have to use the below ballot form – use whatever format works best for you. Send your ballot to Brian Kampschroer, at [inside@mer2017.org](mailto:inside@mer2017.org) or Brian Kampschroer, c/o NMRA, 521 Stoney Run Rd, Dillsburg, PA 17019-9505. Brian will confirm every received ballot with either an email or post card response based on your delivery mode. Deadline for *receipt* by either delivery method is May 31, 2017. Results will be presented in the July Sidetracks.

**ONLY VOTE FOR FOUR (4) CANDIDATES**

- David Collison
- Pat Mulrooney
- Howard Oakes
- Lee Rainey
- David Tillman

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**Below Only to Notify of Ballot Receipt**

Your Name (print): \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address (if sent by USPS): \_\_\_\_\_

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(Questions – call Tim Himmelberger at 717-228-9396)

# The March 18, 2017 NMRA Susquehanna Division meeting is in the record book!

We had two layout visits and both were enjoyed by many of our meeting attendee's!

Photos of Tim Himmelberger's Layout



Photos of John Wissinger's Layout



**Event: Saturday May 20, 2017 9:00 AM**

Title: Spring on the Mainline

Project Officer: Howard Oakes ([hoakes@susquehannanmra.org](mailto:hoakes@susquehannanmra.org)). 717-632-5990

Location and: Christiana Freight Station, 10 Railroad Ave., Christiana, PA 17509-1416 (approximately 5 miles south of Gap, PA).

The Lancaster Chapter of the NRHS is the owner of the restored 1882 PRR freight station. The station features a train watching deck on the Amtrak Keystone corridor at milepost 48.5. Onsite is a Conrail N7E caboose undergoing restoration. The station is handicapped accessible.

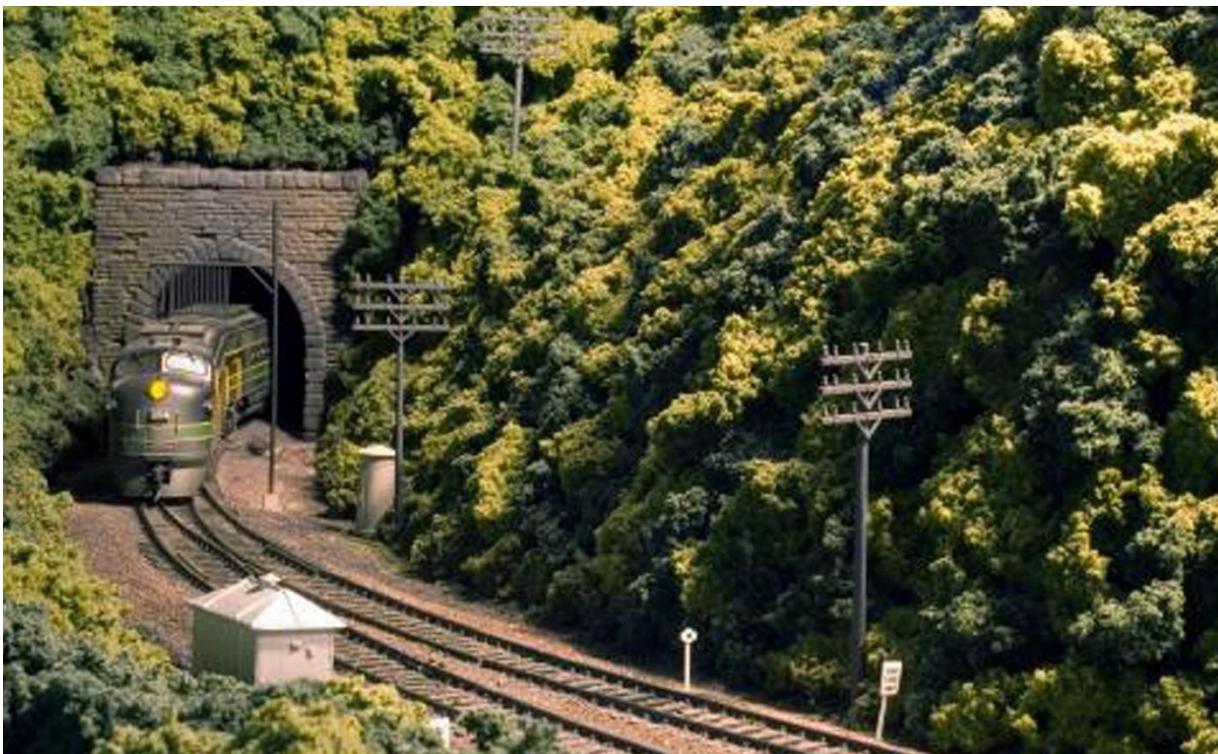


After a meet, greet and registration with coffee and donuts, the morning program at the station will have 2 clinics, the Model Showcase and door prize items you won't want to miss. All attendees are encouraged to bring a model for display during our Model Showcase segment. It can be your pride and joy, something under construction, a new purchase – in short, anything related to model railroading. Each model owner will have a few minutes to describe their item. This is not a judging event - it's simply an opportunity to share with your fellow modelers.

Elizabeth Myers, Coordinator of Volunteers, will discuss the Railroad Museum of PA – “42 Years: A Museum History



Our own Division 11 Jim Hertzog will present - A look at my model railroad called "The Reading Railroad-Shamokin Division". Jim is well known in prototypical operation and modeling circles and has had several articles published in the railroad press.



Since we are next to the Amtrak mainline, the train schedule will be available and hopefully we will see a few passenger trains whiz by.

Caution: This is an active double track mainline with trains reaching speeds of 80 mph.  
Please Do Not Trespass on Amtrak property

For our afternoon activities, we have 1 club and 2 home layouts open for your viewing pleasure.

Pat Mulrooney's exceptional HO layout and the Garden Spot Village multiple scale club layout are both located in New Holland.

Dennis Blank's HO and N-scale layouts are in Denver.



[hoakes@susquehannamra.org](mailto:hoakes@susquehannamra.org)

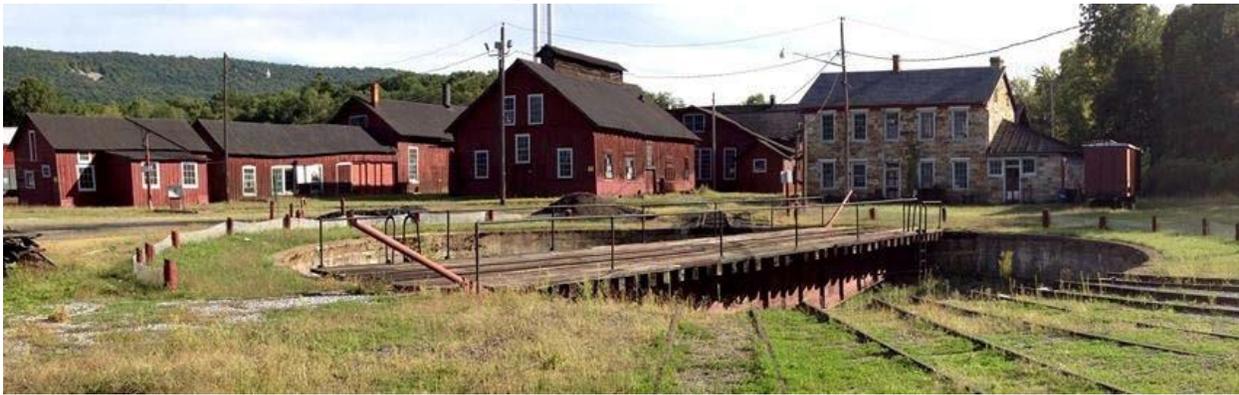
Directions to the layouts and a list of nearby restaurants will be provided.

This restored PRR freight station is a beauty with lots of historic artifacts and photos. We are fortunate to have this location for our event. I look forward to seeing you there.



## East Broad Top Railroad and Rock Hill Trolley Museum Tour

On Friday, October 13 we have a day long bus trip planned to Rockhill Furnace, Pennsylvania, to tour the East Broad Top narrow gauge railroad facilities as well as the adjacent Rockhill Trolley Museum. The bus will be leaving the hotel at 8 AM. During this tour, you will visit the historic East Broad Top Railroad shops and roundhouse and the Rockhill Trolley Museum car barns, as well as riding the trolley over historic right of way.



The East Broad Top ((EBT) is a National Historic Landmark. The East Broad Top Railroad and Coal Company preserves the country's oldest surviving narrow gauge trackage, built and opened for service in 1873. Shut down in 1956, and then operated for another 50 years as a tourist train, the line remains virtually intact – including track, steam locomotives, cars and facilities.



The EBT is a virtual time machine documenting the industrial progress of the U.S. during the golden era of steam power, and has been described by the Smithsonian as “the best-preserved example of a 1900- era industrial site anywhere in the country”.

You will be guided through the various shops, roundhouse, and facilities by guides well versed in the history of the railroad. One of your guides will be our division's Lee Rainey, considered by many to be the leading authority on the EBT. His book on the railroad is a "must have" for the EBT enthusiast.



Currently the railroad is not operating any equipment or offering rides, but active restoration and preservation work continues on-site under the auspices of the Friends of the East Broad Top, Inc. Your visit will include a behind-the-scenes tour of the restoration shop.

At the Rockhill Trolley Museum you will ride on one of the many historical trolleys from the museum's collection. The collection includes several operational trolleys, including an open car, high-speed interurban cars, fascinating maintenance-of-way cars, and two PCC Cars. Plus, you'll see more cars being restored in the shops by talented volunteers. Your guides will include experienced trolley operators and restoration crew.

Lunch will be provided during the tour by the members of the trolley museum. Space for this tour is limited to one bus load. Once the bus is full it will be leaving for Orbisonia without you.

Dan Horting





## **SUSQUEHANNOCK CONVENTION VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

Many of you will agree that a large part of the success of any convention are the clinics and our upcoming Mid-Eastern Region Susquehannock Convention is no exception. To assure the success of our division's sponsorship for the October 12-15 convention the convention clinic committee needs clinic room monitors.

We have 4 days of clinics prepared starting Thursday evening October 12th and running through Sunday morning, October 15th. That's over 50 clinics and we will need volunteers to make the clinics a success and thus the convention a success as well.

Two big incentives for volunteering are you'll be guaranteed a great seat for some excellent clinics and you will earn volunteer points towards your NMRA Achievement Program-Volunteer certificate.

So, what does a convention clinic room monitor do? All monitors will act as a second set of hands, eyes and ears and basically help wherever help is needed to make each clinic run as smoothly as possible. Some specific clinic room monitors duties may include, but not be limited to: helping the clinician set up the room (moving tables, chairs, displays, etc.), introducing the clinician to the attendees before the start of the clinic by reading a biographical card prepared by the clinic committee, setting up the PowerPoint and projector for the presentation, acting as a timekeeper during the presentation, helping with minor audio/video issues, contacting the convention audio/video specialist if the need arises, and helping the clinician teardown and pack up.

Our Clinic Committee is in the process of developing training for all clinic room monitors. Training will be given prior to the convention. Details on the training are still being ironed out by the clinic committee.

With over 50 clinics scheduled throughout the duration of the convention the clinic committee needs a maximum of 28 clinic room monitor volunteers to cover all the scheduled clinic shifts. Obviously 28 volunteers is a lot. We hope you and some of your model railroad friends will volunteer to cover two shifts during the convention to reduce the total number of required volunteers. We realize that's a lot of time sitting in a clinic room but know such an effort will be sincerely appreciated and is essential to a smooth-running clinic program and a successful convention overall.

If you are interested in learning more or you would like to volunteer - send an email to our training manager, Sean Gaston, at [sdgaston@ptd.net](mailto:sdgaston@ptd.net) with your name, phone number, and which clinic segments you wish to volunteer for. Those who volunteer for multiple shifts will receive shift request priority. If you do not have email capability contact Sean by phone at 717-330-9704. We look forward to you volunteering to make our Mid-Eastern Region Susquehannock Convention a huge success!

*Sean Gaston*

# OPEN HOUSE

The PRR Middle Division in HO Scale will open its doors in conjunction with the annual meeting of the Pennsylvania Railroad Technical & Historical Society (PRRT&HS).

The model railroad strives to depict the Lewistown area per prototypic detail, including the main line past Lewistown Junction, the yard, downtown Lewistown, and the branch reaching out through Burnham, Yeagertown, and on to Milroy.

The event will be held on Sunday, May 21, 2017, from 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. In addition to attendees, the event is open to friends of the railroad. For more information, please visit the railroad's web site (<http://jbritton.pennsyrr.com>), go under the Public Relations menu, and select Middle Division Events.



# Miniature Railroad Club of York

381 East Wheatfield St

York, Pa

Summer Open House – June 17, 2017

1:00 to 5:00 PM

Come and see the ongoing renovations to this landmark club layout!



**May 6, 2017, Newport PA**

Conrail Historical Society Annual Rail-B-Que, Oliver  
Township Park  
10 AM – 6 PM, All welcome. Donations accepted.  
[www.thecrhs.org](http://www.thecrhs.org)

**May 18-20, 2017**

Camp Hill, PA  
PRRT&HS Annual Meeting  
(Must be a PRRT&HS member to attend)  
[www.prrths.com](http://www.prrths.com)

**May 19-20, 2017**

Allentown, PA  
23<sup>rd</sup> National Model Trolley Meet  
Allentown Fairgrounds Agri-plex Charles Hall  
\$23 in advance, \$25 after May 1<sup>st</sup>.  
[www.eastpenn.org](http://www.eastpenn.org)

**May 20, 2017**

Christiana, PA  
MER Division 11 Meet  
See details on p. 6

**May 21, 2017**

Friends of Philadelphia Trolleys  
PCC Charter at SEPTA Elmwood Depot  
7311 Elmwood Ave.  
Trolley charter departs at 11:00 am returns 3:00 pm  
Admission \$45.00 per person  
[www.friendsofphiladelphiatrolleys.org](http://www.friendsofphiladelphiatrolleys.org)

**Saturday May 27, 2017**

Anthracite heritage Express at Market Street.  
First train to Mt. Carmel at 11:00 am  
Admission \$10.00 per person  
[www.nccarts.com](http://www.nccarts.com)

**June 21-25**

2017 National N Scale  
Convention  
Pittsburgh, PA

**July 15, 2017**

PCC and LRV Day at Rockhill Trolley Museum  
430 Meadows Street. Rockhill, Pa  
Admission \$8.00  
[www.rockhilltrolley.org](http://www.rockhilltrolley.org)

**July 30 – August 6**

2017 NMRA Convention  
Orlando, FL

**August 8-12**

2017 National S Gauge  
Convention  
Timonium, MD

**August 13 – 16, 2017**

Steel Mill Modelers SIG Annual Meet  
Bethlehem, Pa  
Sands Hotel and Casino  
\$140.00 which includes \$30.00 membership  
[www.smmsig.org](http://www.smmsig.org)

**October 12-15**

2017 MER Convention  
Harrisburg PA

# PIKE ADS

Pike Ads are available for \$10 for a 6-issue year. This fee helps to further offset the cost of mailing hard-copy newsletters, and your support is greatly appreciated. For information about placing an ad, please contact Tedd Pounds at [tpounds@susquehannamra.org](mailto:tpounds@susquehannamra.org)



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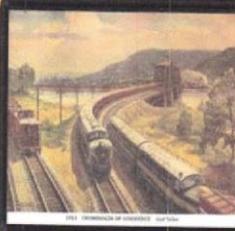
*Route  
of  
the  
Whittell*



*The Standard Railroad of the World  
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**PRR Panhandle Division**



George Pandelios Chief Engineer  
Member: NMRA, TCA, PRRT&HS  
717.503.3192 [gpandelios@verizon.net](mailto:gpandelios@verizon.net)



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Op Sessions 2nd Saturday of the Month




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## RAIL PASS APPLICATION

### National Model Railroad Association (NMRA) Mid-Eastern Region Application for Free "Railpass" Trial Membership

Yes, please sign me up for a free six-month Railpass trial membership in the NMRA – which includes membership in the Mid-Eastern Region and in my local Division. During this six month period, I understand that I may attend conventions and meets, and participate in contests. I will receive **NMRA Magazine**, the national monthly magazine, and **The eLocal**, the bi-monthly regional newsletter if an e-mail address is provided. I will not be eligible to vote or hold office.

I also understand that the \$9.95 cost of this six month Railpass trial membership is being paid by the Mid-Eastern Region. (Regardless of who pays, six month \$9.95 memberships are available only once to each person.) At the end of the six months, I may join the NMRA, paying the regular active member dues.

During the past two years, I have **not** been a member of the NMRA or a prior Rail Pass member.

Name (Print): \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City / State / Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Scale(s): \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Sponsor: \_\_\_\_\_ (Required)

Title of Sponsor: \_\_\_\_\_ (Required)

(A Division or Regional officer or board member)

When this form is completed, mail to:

**Howard Oakes**  
**301 Moulstown Road**  
**Abbottstown, PA 17301-8912**

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