



# THE PHILADELPHIA DISPATCHER

Official publication of the Philadelphia Division  
of the Mid-Eastern Region,  
National Model Railroad Association

January 2007  
Volume 14, Number 1

The Philadelphia Division is pleased to announce we will be holding our next meeting on Saturday, January 20th, at the Church of the Incarnation, located at 1505 Makefield Road in Morrisville, PA. This is a new location for us, and we are looking forward to a great meeting. Doors will open at 9:00 AM, with the meet starting at approximately 9:30 AM. For directions and a map please see page 3 of this issue of the Dispatcher.

Our clinics for this meet will be as follows. First up will be a clinic on Model Photography presented by Dr. Jim Hart. Jim has been taking model pictures for years, and has done excellent work. He will be sharing some of the techniques he uses to help you improve your skills. And for an incentive, at our meeting in June the contest will be Photos! So come learn the skills needed, and then start practicing. Maybe some day we'll see your shot on the cover of Model Railroader or Railroad Model Craftsman, who knows?

At press time we have not received a conformation from our second clinician, Stephen Funaro from Funaro & Carmerlengo. They are traveling and can't confirm until they back home.

We tentatively have an updated version of his Assembling Resin Kits that he gave at RPM Valley Forge in March of 2006. This clinic was very well attended, and presented many ideas to use while assembling these sometimes difficult models.

In the event he is unable to attend, we are scheduling a Resin Show and Tell as a backup. We did this several years ago and it was enjoyed by all. If you have a resin kit you have built, bring it along, both for the contest, and to be a part of this fun activity. You will be given 5 – 10 minutes to tell us what you did, what worked and what didn't, and any other suggestions or tricks you learned along the way. And in case you didn't know, our contest is resin Models.

After the meets conclusion, starting at 1:00 PM there will be 5 layouts open for you to tour. With this new location many of these are layouts that have never been open for a Philadelphia Division meet, and they are all top notch layouts. This will be a great day to see what others are doing.

Coffee and donuts will be available at the meet for a donation, and there are several restaurants in the area for you to

get lunch before the layout tours begin at 1:00 PM.

This looks like a great meet, and new layouts to see, what could be better? We'll see you on the 20<sup>th</sup>!

## Good News!

The board of the Philadelphia Division has decided to discontinue the meet fee. That's right, no more \$2.00 fee at the door. In this day of ever increasing costs you have an opportunity to save a little money or spend it on more trains

## Membership Cards

At the last board meeting the board voted to discontinue the distribution of membership cards. With the NMRA's switch to a one dues structure you now should have a National card, which automatically makes you a member of the Division. The cost of printing and distributing the cards was deemed a waste. The record of your subscription to the Dispatcher will be kept by the Clerk. If you have any questions about this please feel free to talk to a member of the board. Please remember to check the label for your renewal date.

Well, the Holidays are behind us, and now which of those New Years resolutions are you still keeping? Losing weight, getting organized, and maybe cleaning the garage, throwing away that stuff I've saved for the last 50 years? The list could go on and on, but you catch my drift. There is an easy answer to the dilemma, just don't make any more resolutions! We don't usually keep them anyway, so why bother. But let's face it; we still make them every year, at least in our minds, even if we don't write them down.

Happily for the Susquehanna, one of those resolutions is coming into fruition. For a long time I've had this shelf along one side of the basement that was originally designed to be the Edgewater branch. But it was just such a great place to store stuff, and for operating sessions it was perfect for laying out those necessary things like switch lists, train order forms and train sign up sheets. Also lurking on one of those overfilled storage shelves was a resin tug boat kit. The thought came to me over the holidays that if I started the tug boat maybe Edgewater would follow.

Sure enough, as soon as I started the boat the ideas began to flow. I mean if you're going to have a boat it will need some water to sit in (OK, gloss medium, not real water), and if you have a boat you'll need some barges for it to push. And if you have a barge you'll need a place to load it, right? And of course you'll need some tracks to haul the freight in and out of the port.

As this is being written, the layout for the large Ford plant in Edgewater is well under way, including building some of the smaller buildings to clutter up the

area, some tanks to hold the oils used in the manufacturing process, and the wharf the whole affair will sit on. The ties are in for the track, and even some of the rail is laid. Maybe by the next operating session the Ford job will be able to actually spot some cars in the plant.

There is even a little progress on some of the other areas in Edgewater. On the Susquehanna, this short branch served the furthest north of the Hudson River terminals. This area was heavily industrialized with many major American companies represented. I have a map which shows all the basic track arrangements in the area, and the complexity of it would challenge the most enthusiastic track layer.

But here's the rub. Did you ever try to locate usable photographs of specific industrial buildings? In conversation with every Susquehanna fan I know the answer has been the same so far: we all have roster shots, and many taken on the tracks in question, but not one shot of any industries. Oh sure, you can see a building in the distant background. Or there's a corner of one here and there, but usable? Not hardly. And you all know that when you build something, as soon as it's finished a new photo will surface that shows clearly what you did wrong. Sure, a few of the smaller buildings still stand, but almost the entire area has been turned into condominiums, not very appealing for an industrial harbor. And so the saga continues.

Now if I could only find the time to finish that darn tug boat!

Happy Railroading,  
Steve

## THE PHILADELPHIA DISPATCHER

Official publication of the Philadelphia Division, Mid-Eastern Region,

National Model Railroad Association

### Editor

Stephen F. Salotti  
46 Meadow Road  
Collegeville, Pa, 19426  
(610) 489 1940

**Submissions:** The PHILADELPHIA DISPATCHER welcomes any model railroad- or railroad-related material. Members are encouraged to send in articles, letters to the editor, reviews, etc. Submissions are preferred typed, double-spaced. The editor reserves the right to, when necessary, paraphrase small portions of the text in order to fit the space available.

**Next issue:** April '07. Due out approx. April 1st. Deadline: March 15th.

**Subscription:** \$7.00 per year. Address all subscription applications, renewals; address changes, etc. to the Clerk. If the date in the upper-right corner of your mailing label is highlighted, your subscription will expire soon. Please pay at the next meet or mail payment to the Clerk. Make checks payable to "Philadelphia Division, NMRA."

### Division Personnel:

#### Superintendent

Dick Foley  
2021 Wallace Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19130  
215-232-4926

#### Assistant Superintendent

Jim Dalberg  
529 Foxwood Lane  
Paoli, PA 19301  
(610) 648 0089

#### Clerk

Stephen F. Salotti  
46 Meadow Road  
Collegeville, PA 19426  
(610) 489-1940  
jmsfca@netzero.com

#### Treasurer

Dick Landt  
561 Beck Road  
Souderton, PA 18964

#### Achievement Program Coordinator

Dave Messer, M.M.R.  
263 Mingo Road  
Royersford, PA 19468-3112  
(610) 948-2191

#### Module Team Foreman

Tom Cancelmo  
238 Jackson Avenue  
Lansdowne, PA 19050  
(610) 259-7216

#### Mid-Eastern Region, N.M.R.A.

Fred Miller MMR Business Manager  
8960 Challis Hill Lane  
Charlotte, NC 28226-2686  
(704)-752-5138

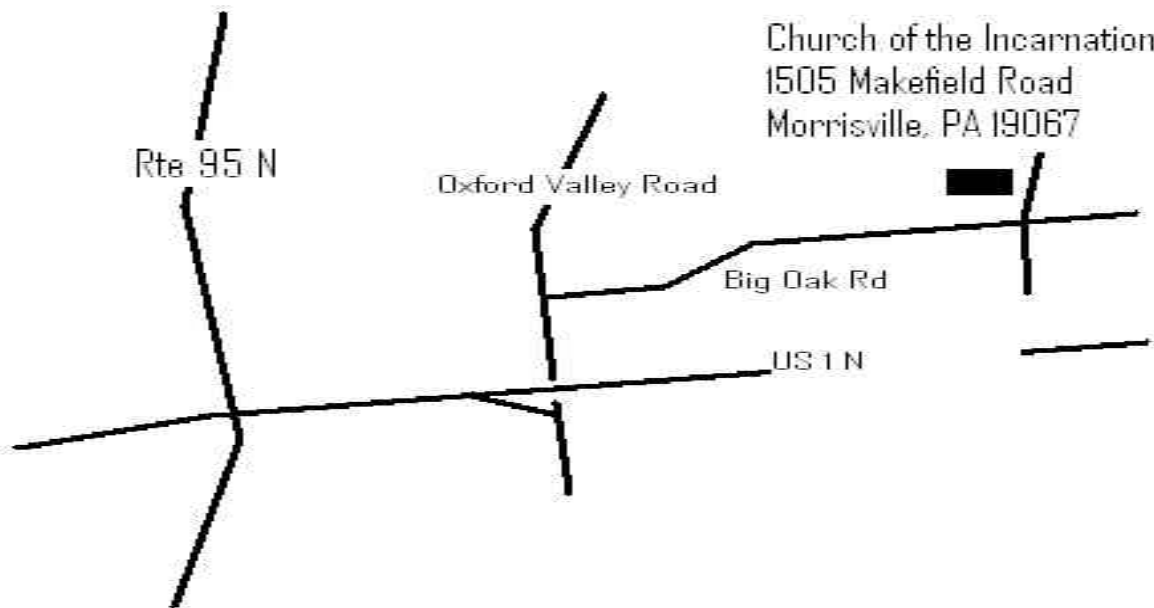
#### National Model Railroad Association

4121 Cromwell Road  
Chattanooga, TN 37421-2119  
(615) 892-2946  
Dues: \$33.00 per year,

---

## Map to the Church of the Incarnation

---



From Interstate 95 exit at exit 46 for Langhorne, PA. Follow signs for US Route 1 North. Travel on US 1 North for approximately    mile Watch for exit for Oxford Valley. At the Oxford Valley exit turn Left onto Oxford Valley Road. Follow Oxford Valley Road for approximately    mile, then turn Right onto Big Oak Road. Follow Big Oak Road for 2    miles, and watch for Makefield Avenue. Turn Left onto Makefield Avenue, and watch for the Church of the Incarnation.

---

## April Meet Information

---

On April 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> the Philadelphia Division will be trying a different meet format. In the next issue of The Dispatcher we will publish a list of layouts open for you to visit on both Friday night and Saturday afternoon. Then on those two days you are invited to visit these locations. We will try to plan them in groups so you can visit as many as possible

in each time period. At this point we do not plan to have meeting location with clinics, but if this changes we will publish the information in the next issue.

Try it and let the board know if you like it. We are looking for new ideas to make the Philadelphia Division the best division in the Mid Eastern Region.

---

## Special event!

---

The Philadelphia Division would like to plan a special trip for members and guests of the division.

After all the fun we had during the bus rides at Independence Junction '06, we are planning to go to Steam Town! This event will be planned for a fall Saturday, either in late September or early October. The trip will depart from a convenient location with ample parking, and travel by motor coach to the museum. We will time our arrival to be in place at the roundhouse when the steam locomotive is brought out onto the turntable and readied for the

day's trips. The price will include museum admission and the train ride. As a bonus, during the ride up we will be having a drawing, and the winner will receive a cab ride on the locomotive!

The division will be paying part of the cost of this trip as a thank you to all those who helped make Independence Junction a success, and it is open to all members and their guests. We will make the final announcement about a date in the next issue of the Dispatcher.

# The Philadelphia Dispatcher

Official publication of the Philadelphia Division  
of the National Model Railroad Association

46 Meadow Road  
Collegeville, PA 19426

Inside:     Division Meet  
              Steam Town!

X

Do you need to renew? If the date on your mailing label is highlighted, please renew promptly. Thank you for renewing promptly.

## **Discounts for Division Members at Local Hobby Shops**

**Be sure to patronize the area's hobby shops that are now offering discounts on model railroading purchases to members of the Philadelphia Division.**

### **Kenwood Model Hobbies**

8436 Perry Hwy, Rt. 19  
Pgh., PA 15237-5228  
10% discount (412)-364-2913

### **Iron Horse Hobby Shop**

60 S. 6<sup>th</sup> St. in Reading  
10% discount with \$10 min purchase

### **Jenkintown Train & Hobby**

Greenwood Ave & Leedom St  
Jenkintown, PA 19046  
**10% in addition to discounted prices**

### **Mitchell's Family Store**

2119 Concord Pike (202) in Wilmington DE  
10% discount on train department items

### **Main Line Hobbies**

2915 Hannah Ave  
East Norriton, PA 610-275-4340  
20% off list prices

### **Herb's Hobbies and Crafts**

200 W. State St. in Doylestown  
\$25 of free merchandise for every \$250 spent

### **Nicholas Smith Trains**

2343 West Chester Pike (3) in Bromall  
10% discount (excludes O & G items)

### **Lin's Junction**

128 South Line St.  
Lansdale, PA 19446  
5% in addition to already discounted prices

### **Bussinger Trains**

Old Ambler Station, Ambler  
10-12% off retail