# The Lantern

VOLUME 4 ISSUE I

FEBRUARY 2014

# WESTERN NEW YORK DIVISION



From the Cabin Car 2

Craftsman kits 3-5

What's on your Bench 6

Christmas Party 8

Unitrack 9

March Build Project 10

RPM Article 11

### **Our Next Meetings**

February Meeting
17th and 18th Hamburg
Train Show
March Meeting 9th
Build Along at the
9:00 AM at 100 Lee
Street Buffalo, NY

April 20th Meeting
Road trip to J.L.
Innovative Design

# From the Cab

When writing this for the Newsletter, I am always amazed at how many events we have.

First, I want to "Thank" Gary Reynolds for his service as editor of our "Newsletter." Gary has done a great job informing us of our events. After Gary stepped down, Gerry DiPaola stepped in to take over in Gary's footsteps. Gerry "Thank you" and "Welcome Aboard." Gerry has been an active member of our Division and is one of the 2023 Superintendent's Award recipients. Please see Gerry's introduction on page 2 Second, Buffalo Model Railroad Club Open House. Click Here for more information.

**Third,** Our next meeting will be at the WNYRHS Hamburg on Saturday, February 17<sup>th,</sup> starting at 10:30 AM. Don't forget to get your discount coupon from <u>our website</u>. We need displays for the show for both days; please bring whatever you are working on.

Fourth, March 9<sup>th</sup> is our Bar Mills build along. If you are not planning on coming to the WNYRS Discovery Center at 100 Lee Street on the 9th, Make sure you get your order in by February 16th so you can use our 40% discount and have time to get your order to you. To "Order," you need to contact Matt Rosinski for the discount code and get registered. On the last day of the Hamburg Show, February 18<sup>th</sup>, Matt will accept any money for kits that will be delivered to Lee Street for our group order. Note: The Group order means you plan on spending the day with us at Lee Street. A separate email will be sent to the group about lunch arrangements and our short meeting.

**Fifth**, Don't forget the NERX March  $18^{th} - 21^{st}$ , clinics, discussions and fun nights.

**Sixth,** On April 7<sup>th</sup>, the International Plastic Model Society, Niagara Frontier Chapter is hosting a show at the Knights Events Center, 2735 Union Rd at William Street Cheektowaga (Buffalo) NY 14227. **Seventh,** April 14<sup>th:</sup> The Great Batavia Train Show and RPM meet.

**Eighth,** On April 20<sup>th,</sup> our Division Meeting will be a road trip to <u>J.L. Innovative Design, Costello Manufacturing</u> in Limestone, NY—more de-

tails to follow.

WOW!



### From the Cabin Car

Happy New Year! I hope everyone enjoyed the holiday party, Lisa and I enjoyed seeing familiar faces and meeting many of the members (and spouses) in attendance. Congratulations to all our awardees! As the new Lantern editor, I want to thank our Superintendent, Andy MacVie, for the opportunity to serve the WNY Division and Gary Reynolds for his time as editor...thank you!



As one of the newest members of the WNY Division, allow me to introduce myself, my name is Gerry DiPaola. I grew up in Western New York (Buffalo, Kenmore, Amherst) and have lived in Tacoma, WA, and Philadelphia, PA. I'm a United States Army Veteran and a Civil Engineer by degree. My career path has afforded me opportunities to work with various federal agencies including the U.S. Navy, U.S. Army, and the Department of Veterans Affairs. My wife Lisa and I reside just outside of Lockport, NY. I have three children in their twenties who live in New York and North Carolina.

Now that we have introductions covered, I'd like to share my entry into the hobby and my history with model railroading. Like many of us, it all started with a train set for Christmas at about 9 years old. I recall looking through Buffalo News flyers, Brand Names catalogs, and early memories of an N scale (I think) train set given to my family from a neighbor, which resulted in my putting a train set on my wish list to Santa. Well, Santa heard me, and I found a Life-Like Santa Fe HO scale train set (from Child World as I recall) under the tree. Little did I know that a lifelong train enthusiast (both prototype and model) was in my future.

I recall my first layout consisting of two hollow core door slabs glued together edge-to-edge and reinforced with short, slightly rusty, pieces of plumbing strap nailed into the reinforced door edges. A coat of green spray paint for ground cover soon followed, and "roads" were created using brushed-on glue and a thin layer of masonry sand atop. A loop of code 100 brass track was assembled and a set of cowboy figures, horses, covered wagons, all with cardboard shanty-style buildings rounded out the primitive layout. A few years later, a larger "L" shaped layout, constructed from 4-foot by 8-foot sheets of plywood with a complement of Bachmann, Peco, and Rivarossi track, soon followed. I also enjoyed building plastic building kits from AHM and TYCO. A long and narrow seasonal switching layout was even built on a fireplace mantel for Christmas!

Sometime after those early years, I discovered 3-rail O scale and enjoyed building a few small toy train layouts around the Christmas tree and in a small den-sized room using tubular track and various Lionel building kits and MTH ready-built structures.

After several years in "armchair" mode, I'm looking forward to getting my hands dirty once again and creating my ideal layout. Presently, I am in the initial stages of what will hopefully be an around-the-room Hi-Rail O scale layout in my basement approximately thirty-eight feet by twelve feet in size. So far, the electrical circuits are in place and now working on the details for maximizing the wall-to-wall dimensions. My list of "givens and druthers" is in progress, with a hot water tank relocation on the to-do list. Please feel free to share your layout-building lessons learned, I'm all ears!

Finally, I'm looking forward to visiting the many upcoming shows, layout open houses, and participating in the Bar Mills build. Also looking forward to meeting more of you and learning from our knowledgeable membership. See you soon!

P.S.- I want to share my new WNY Division email... <u>Editor@wnydivisionnmra.com</u>. Feel free to drop me a note to say hello or share an idea for the newsletter!

### CRAFTSMAN KITS 101 by Jack Ellis



### Stucco:

A low maintenance exterior wall covering made with Portland cement and sand and color pigment. Stucco was troweled over brick, block and wood walls. here are several ways to represent stucco walls. I have used Rock Hard Water Putty mixed with water and white glue. Brush on the water putty with ¼" paint brush in small swirling motions. I read on one of the forums about a product called Ceramic Stucco by Liquitex A paste with a very fine sand mixed in and stippled on with a ¼" stencil brush. I found Ceramic Stucco at most art supply stores. There are a couple of thing I like to do before I apply the Stucco. I like to put the walls together before I apply the stucco. I apply

**Squadron Putty** on the corner and sand it smooth to hide the

corner seams. With the **Liquitex** you need to prime the **Squadron Putty**. You can now apply the stucco and then scrape it off around the windows and vents. I did find an easier way to recess the windows and doors. Apply blue painter's tape over the window opening and cut out the opening. Place the window in the opening and cut the tape with a hobby knife with a new blade around the outside of the window. Peel the tape outside the window frame leaving a strip of tape around the window opening. After

applying the Sand Stone remove the tape. This will leave a recess for the

window or door. To add some trim built in to the stucco cut some strips of thin card stock and glue it to the building walls. Then stipple the stucco paste over the entire wall (photo at the top shows the trim on the bottom with out stucco and on the trim on the top stuccoed over). I like to spray paint the stuccoed walls. Color for the wall mostly depends on the part of the country you are modeling. Small drips of I&A under the windows and doors will complete the look.





## **CRAFTSMAN KITS (CONT.)**



### **Brick:**

Brick buildings were built to help stop the fires that were plaguing the inner cities

Raw bricks come in many colors. The brick color comes from the color of the clay used to make the brick. Different parts of the country have different colors of brick due to color of the clay used in the brick. A single building may have two different color bricks. They would use a higher price bricks on the front and a cheaper bricks on the rear walls.

There are many different materials to represent bricks. There are styrene kits, plaster, resin, sheet plastic and printed-paper. If the

Craftsman kit comes with one of these, you will have to paint and weather them (not the printed paper).

### **Painting Brick:**

Bricks come in many colors from orange to reds to tans and the brick can be painted. You need to choose the basic color you think will represent the building you are building. If you are using Ink& Alcohol to weather the brick, pick a lighter color for the brick. The I&A will darken the overall color. Some kits come with brick walls with the window and doors cast in. I like to paint the wall my brick color and then go back and paint the doors and windows. I then go back and touch-up the brick color around the doors and windows. With the wall painted with the basic color I will go back and paint individual brick with darker reds, tans and browns at random.

### Mortar:

Mortar can be represented with many materials. My best method is to use **DAP Lightweight Spackling**. Take a little bit on your finger and rub it into the motor line. Wipe off the top of the brick and any heavy deposit to get an even fill on the mortar lines. After



the Spackle dries you may color it with washes or I&A. You can use I&A under the windows in the corners and drips under the eves. If you are applying mortar over a tan or yellow brick, use a wash of I&A. Don't forget you can use brick printed-paper on buildings not close to the viewer. But don't use water based weathering products on paper.

Tip: All buildings are built on a foundation, so if the kit didn't come with one, build one. Brick, stone or Concrete

# **CRAFTSMAN KITS (CONT.)**



### **Stone Walls:**



There were two reasons they made the wall from stone. One was that stone was fireproof and the other was it was local material. There are some limitations with stone you can only build so high and most walls needed some kind of reinforcement. There are many different materials to represent Stone. There are styrene kits, plaster, resin, sheet plastic and printed-paper. If The

Craftsman kit comes with one of these you will have to paint and weather them (not the printed paper).

I am going to break then into two categories. One is Styrene and Resin the other is Plaster. Some of the steps are the same. Each starts out a little different.

#### **Plaster:**

To seal or not to seal that is the question. I like not to seal the plaster the colors are more like earth tones. I like to use water base washes made with acrylic paints. I make up four washes with **Apple Barrel** Craft Paints **Dolphin Gray** (20781), **Territorial Beige** (20558), **Goose Feather** (20777) and **Black** (20504). These are semi-

transparent washes more water than paint. You want to build up layer a little at a time. With water base washes I like to spray the casting with wet water, a couple drops of dishwashing liquid in water. I start with the lightest wash and stained about a third of the stones at random around each wall section. Then I started adding the other two colors now and then allowing the colors to run into each other, creating other shades. Mortar lines are added with a wash of black paint. I use a small pointed brush dipped into the black wash, touch the point to the mortar joint, and the wash will pulled into the joint. Repeat until the entire wall mortar joints are covered. Repeat if the mortar joint are not dark enough. Add a little gray wash in the mortar joint for variety. I like my mortar joints dark so the each stones stick out. Add some run-off streaks and rust stains.



#### **Styrene and Resins:**

I like to use water base washes made with acrylic paints but water based washes don't stick well to plastic and resins. So I primed the castings with white paint. By priming the casting white, this makes the staining process repeatable and the paint will give the washes something to stick to. I make up four washes with **Apple Barrel** Craft Paints **Dolphin Gray** (20781), **Territorial Beige** (20558), **Goose Feather** (20777) and **Black** (20504). These are semi-transparent washes more water than paint. You want to build up layer a little at a time. With water base washes I like to spray the casting with wet water, a couple drops of dishwashing liquid in water. I start with the lightest wash and stained about a third of the stones at random around each wall section. Than I started adding the other two colors now and then allowing the colors to run into each other, creating other shades. Mortar lines are added with a wash of black paint. I use a small pointed brush dipped into the black wash, touch the point to the mortar joint, and the wash will pulled into the joint. Repeat until the entire wall mortar joints are covered. Repeat if the mortar joint are not dark enough. Add a little **Gray** (20781) wash in the mortar joint for variety. I like my mortar joints dark so the each stones stick out. Add some run-off streaks and rust stains.

Stone retaining walls can be painted and weathered the same way

Tip: Don't forget the mold and mildew at the base of the wall where it meets the ground.

Next issue we cover Signs techniques.

### WHAT'S ON MY WORKBENCH?

### **Gary Reynolds MMR**

There are several things I am currently working on. First, I am trying to finish the last few cars for my scratch-built work train. The clamshell crane and boom car are nearing completion. I lost six months as I was recovering from my heart surgery, but now I have been down to the basement and back to train activities. The other main activity is fixing up several rolling stock for the layout. During the last several operating sessions, I lost a few uncouplers or details on a car of two. With some repair work, these cars can now be replaced into revenue service.

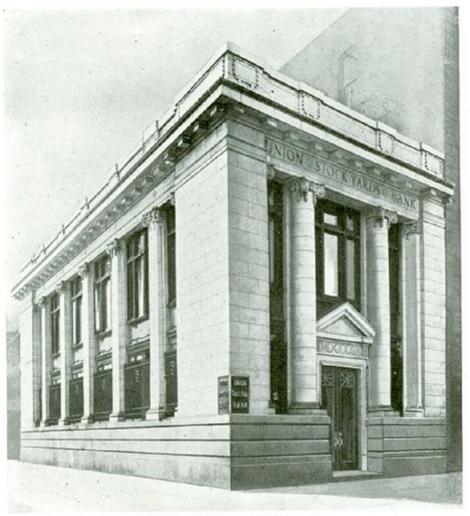




# WHAT'S ON MY WORKBENCH?

### **Ron Kemp**

Part of the S-scale layout I am building goes right by the Union Stock Yards Bank. I have been trying to find a model to match this bank so I don't have to build it from scratch. Walthers recently announced that the Baily Bank (ala "It's a Wonderful Life") is in S scale. Although it's not a perfect match, it's close enough for me. Finally, I am assembling a B&O box car I got for Christmas.



UNION STOCK YARDS BANK



Our Christmas Party was another great Frank Pastore production. Great food

and drink, a packed house of forty-plus people. We spent some time visiting and talking about trains. We also gave well-deserved "Thank You" awards to people who helped us during the year. We had a presentation of the **Superintendent's Award** by our Superintendent. The **Superintendent's Award** is given to members who have done something that has improved

the Division without looking for a "Thank You." Last year's recipients of the **Superintendent's Award** Tom McQuillen, Mike Grabecki, and Bruce Heatley formed the committee to help our Superintendent select this year's Recipients.



Art Toale, Stephen Bereziuk, and Gerald DiPaola are the 2023 Recipients of the **Superintendents Award**. These guys have provided our Division services that are not seen by many but make the Division look great. Art could not join us, so we will present his at the Hamburg Train Show.

The Superintendent has decided to issue a second award. This award is for people outside of the Division. Who has helped our Division

grow and expand, and that we have. This award is called the **Gandy Dancers Service Award**. This year's recipients are Jim DiMarco MMR, LSD Ned Spiller MMR, LSD, Chuck Diljak MMR GSD, and Cliff Merkle. Ned and Jim spend hours and hours traveling and helping us with a whole host of projects. They have spent hours as instructors and judges for us for several years, Chuck also has spent hours helping with all kinds of graphs projects from our trifold, bookmark, newsletter, and our fonts to name a few. Chuck will be presented



with his award at the Springfield Show and Cliff spent time at two Hamburg Shows manning our F&A table. Cliff is responsible for over \$650.00 of donations to the Division.

Our AP Chairman, Gary Reynolds, has been busy helping our Division members gain some AP Certificates. Ken Akerboom has worked hard to get his Author Certificates. Pictured below is Gary presenting Ken with his Author Certificate. Gary also presented his Association

Official to our Superintendent. Editor @





### **Donated HO Kato Unitrack Fundraiser**

Does your HO layout employ Kato Unitrack? Would you like to use a sectional track to create a HO layout or diorama for yourself or someone else, perhaps to introduce them to the hobby? Then the Division has a deal for you! As a fundraiser, WNY Division member Mike Fifolt has generously donated to the Division a significant collection of Kato Unitrack components that can be purchased at very competitive pricing. The list below is the component inventory of Mike's donation. There is an excellent variety of items; some are available in large numbers. If you (or someone you know) are interested in obtaining any items from the list at prices significantly discounted from the MSRP, contact Steve Cotten via email at <a href="mailto:geophyz75@gmail.com">geophyz75@gmail.com</a> and a mutually agreeable financial and delivery arrangement should result

Kato Part No.	Kato Descrip- tion	Unit Description	Units	Items per Unit	Total Number of Individual Items
2-120	S114	4.5" (114mm) straight section, (in "broken box" for 10)	8	1	8
2-142	S123RE	4.875" (123mm) rerailer, package of 2	1	2	2
2-150	S246 A	9.75" (246mm) straight, box of 10	5	10	50
2-150	S246 A	9.75" (246mm) straight individual section	36	1	36
2-151	S246F B	9.75" (246mm) straight electrical terminal section	8	1	8
2-210	R550-22.5	curved track section, box of 10	1	10	10
2-220	R610-22.5	curved track section, box of 10	4	10	40
2-240	R730-22.5	curved track sections, box of 10	2	10	20
2-850	EP550-L	left-hand remote switch set in box	7	1	7
2-851	EP550-R	right-hand remote switch set in box	6	1	6
2-860	EP867-L	left-hand remote switch set in box	1	1	1
2-861	EP867-R	right-hand remote switch set in box	1	1	1
5-101		buffer stop, box of 2	4	2	8
20-500		N/HO turnout throw switch, individually boxed	12	1	12
20-503		HO/N-gauge turnout extension cord, individually boxed	12	1	12
20-504		HO/N-gauge DC Converter, individually boxed	1	1	1
24-825		HO/N-gauge DC extension cord, individually boxed	2	1	2
24-825		HO/N-gauge DC extension cord, loose, modified	1	1	1
		electrical rail joiners, bag of ~50	1	50	50
		insulated rail joiners, bag of ~25	1	25	25



207-929-3400 • PO Box 609, Bar Mills, Maine, 0400

Search...



"FROM THE GREAT STATE OF MAINE"

Home | Craftsmen Structure Kits | Audio How To's | Video Clinics | Contac

Return to Car







You asked for it in our survey, so here is a hands-on project. Jack Ellis from Bar Mills, Scale Model Works, has volunteered to give us six hours of his time. Jack has selected the Bar Mills kit, the Shack Pack, for us to make. The kit comes in N, HO, and  $\mbox{O}$ (Jack recommends making the HO kits for you S gaugers to use as force perspective on your layout. I will most likely make mine in N for the same reason)

These kits will teach many techniques, from Tar paper roofs to clapboard siding and many more diverse skills.

On March 9<sup>th</sup>, 2024, starting at 9:00 AM at the Lee Street WNYRHS Discovery Center, Jack will come in on Zoom from 9 AM until Noon. We will break for lunch until 2:00 PM, and then Jack will continue from 2:00 until 5:00 PM to help us finish the kits. We will work on bringing in lunch for the noon to 2:00 break time.

Matt Rosinski has stepped up to be our Chairman for this project. (Thank you, Matt) You will be able to reach Matt at lego4mat@gmail.com. Please email Matt that you would like to participate and what Scale you need. Matt will start getting your payments at our January Meeting and finish by February's Meeting. If you are a SNOWBIRD or want to come in on Zoom, please order directly from Bar Mills, but make sure that Matt has your name first.

Prices on the kits currently are as follows: N Scale 0991 \$47.95, HO Scale 0992 \$54.95, and O Scale 0994 \$74.95 plus freight and Tax.

Jack will pass along a list of tools to bring and anything we need to do in advance.

This will be a fun day, so contact Matt soon.

#### Shack Pack (N/HO/O)

\$47.95 - \$74.95

Avaliable in N-HO-O Scale Choose an option ➤



"Shack Pack" is available in N-HO (at your local dealer)....or -in "O" Scale as a "Bar Mills Direct" kit! But what makes this kit special is the fact that each of the three structures included in it take a different building approach. One shack is "tar-paper", another clapboard, another scribed siding. For the money spent you'd be hard pressed to find a better deal (or more useful structures !). So for all of you, beginners (and not-sobeginners) we can only suggest to you that this kit will fit anywhere, serve most any purpose, and give you some practice with different techniques & ideas. As simple as it is, it continues to be one of our favorites!









# Railroad Prototype Modelers: What's this all about?

By Mike Pyszczek, Lakeshores Div.

If you've been around the hobby during the last few years, you've probably seen the acronym RPM. It stands for Railroad Prototype Modelers, a movement that continues to increase in popularity. The building of detailed, prototype-specific models has been around from the early days of model railroading and continues to be an attractive facet of our hobby. RPM gatherings focus on this type of modeling, including all areas of railroading, rolling stock, structures, vehicles, and scenery.

The main thing to know about the RPM "group" is that it has no members, leadership, or organization. It does not compete with the NMRA or local clubs. In fact, nearly all RPM meets are sponsored and run by NMRA divisions or regions and often share convention facilities. Some large conferences, like those held in Chicago, St. Louis, and Indianapolis, last several days and include clinics and tours. Others are small like the RPM meet held in Batavia, NY.

The important element that all RPM gatherings share is that they are, first and foremost, a "show and tell" event. It's that simple. Bring a model representing a prototype subject and let others learn from it while seeing what others have done. Some models are complete, and others are under construction. There is no judging or evaluation of models—just a group of modelers sharing what they have done in a low-key environment.

RPM events fill the gap in our hobby where a modeler wants to share his work but doesn't want to prepare a clinic or enter a contest. It also allows hobbyists to see many models in various stages of completion rather than visiting the contest room at a convention to see a limited number of quality items. In this role, RPM activities complement those offered at traditional NMRA gatherings.

There's always something to be learned from interacting with others who share our interests, and the good news is that RPM events are open to everyone. You don't have to bring a model to participate in, but if you're working on something or have a completed project representing your favorite prototype railroad, bring it along.

Do a quick internet search on "railroad prototype modeler meets" to see what's happening around the country. The following local RPM event will be held on April 14, 2024, at the Great Batavia Train Show. The Lakeshores Division and the Genesee Society of Model Engineers jointly sponsor the event, and we invite you to drop by while you're at the show. If you enjoy detailed prototype models, you're already part of the movement!

### Mike Pyszczek



#### **Meet Mike Pyszcek**

Mike, a Buffalo 1<sup>st</sup> Ward native, now living in Genesee County, is a lifelong model railroader. Starting with a Lionel (HO) set as a child, he now models the B&O Buffalo division in HO. A past-president of the NFR, Mike remains active in the Lakeshores Division as well as being a member of the Genesee Society of Model Engineers. He's been the chairman of the Great Batavia Train show for nearly 30 years and is semi-retired from his business as an engineering consultant.

Click here to go the current RMP Flyer

# **Links and Notes**



### **Directions:**

Get off the 190 at the Smith Street Exit and go south on Smith Street to South Park Ave, turn left and head east on South Park to Lee Street, then turn left on to Lee Street and 100 Lee is on the left side of the street.

Parking and an entrance are in the back of the building; however, a Handicap entrance is only available in the front of the building.





Use a QR Reader to go to Western New York Division of the NMRA website. Yes fans we have our own











# **Links and Notes**







The **Largest Model Train** marketplace in Western New York keeps on rolling...



The Great

# **BATAVIA**

Train Sale

Sunday April 14, 2024

Genesee Community College Richard C. Call Arena

9:30 AM to 3:30 PM

Admission: \$6.00 / Under 18 yrs.- \$3.00 / Under 13 yrs.- Free

Great Show, Great Location Exclusively Trains and Modeling Items Modern Facility with plenty of parking Snack bar, visitor-friendly venue

Follow signs from Exit 48 on the NYS Thruway to Genesee Community College Address: 1 College Road, Batavia, NY 14020

For information on table availability contact us at: bataviatrainshow@gmail.com

Visit our web site: www.gsme.org and follow us on Facebook

# **Batavia RPM**

Batavia Railroad Prototype Modelers Meet

Sunday, April 14, 2024



Model and photo by Jim Ot

All models welcome--finished or in-progress! Locomotives-Rolling Stock-Vehicles-Structures-Dioramas





**NOTE:** At the HDC library we have been sorting magazines, both model railroad and prototype railroad. We have supplies of every title. We can, in many cases, supply full year sets of magazines. We will price magazines at very competitive prices for single copies and for full year sets. We encourage people to ask us about filling gaps in their collections. No doubt we can do that.

If you think it is appropriate please make this known to the membership. Want lists can be sent to  $\underline{\text{me}}$  or to  $\underline{\text{Steve Kocsis}}$ . People can make purchases at the HDC or at the train show next month.

Obviously we have hundreds of copies of Model Railroader and RMC but we also have many copies of Mainline Modeler, Railpace, Classic Trains, and others.

Regards,

**Hugh T Guillaume** 

#### **Editors Note:**

Any image in Links and Notes should take you to their website by clicking on the image.

### **Western New York Division**

### **Contact Information**

# Division Superintendent Andy MacVie

Superintendent@wnydivisionnmra.com 716-445-6805

### **Assistant Superintendent**

#### **Frank Pastore**

frankcpastore@yahoo.com 716-909-6898

### **Chief Clerk**

### **Ron Kemp**

rgkemp316@gmail.com 716-990-9903

### **AP Chairman**

### **Gary Reynolds, MMR**

Gar2rey@gmail.com 716-225-2269

### **Membership Chairman**

### **Steve Cotten**

geophyz75@gmail.com 716-261-8231

#### **Executive Board Members**

#### **Ron Tober**

rontober@gmail.com 716-694-0875

### **Bill Wiedenbeck**

radiobill@roadrunner.com 716-866-3732

#### **Newsletter Editor**

### **Gerry DiPaola**

Editor@wnydivisionnmra.com 716-545-1740

#### **IT Director**

### **Darby Marriott**

DirectorIT@wnydivsionnmra.com (469) 815-5324



Remember that the National NMRA and the Regions are not where the hobby works, it works locally. We are the NMRA. Come and join us.

The best part of being a member of the NMRA is the friends you meet along the way.



Why name this newsletter "The Lantern", because we are tired of being in the dark and we are signaling that we are going to make some changes.