

WESTERN NEW YORK
DIVISION OF THE
NMRA

SPECIAL
POINTS OF
INTEREST:

- **NERx**
- **Links and Notes**
- **Member Profile**

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Our Next Meeting

January 23th 2021

10:00 AM

Using FreeConferenceCall.com

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The Lantern

VOLUME 1 ISSUE 8

NOVEMBER 2020



This issue of "The Lantern" is full of fun things for you to check out. We have another installment of our "What's on your workbench?" This month, Frank Pastore explains what he had on his bench, but the project was so big it's on the layout too. It does not matter if your project is large like Frank's or something smaller, we

would like to know what's on your workbench. Submit your "What's on your workbench?" to Superintendent@WNYDivisionNMRA.com, and you don't even have to write it; tell us what you are working on, and we can do the rest.

Next, we have coverage of the NERx Virtual Convention that was held on December 1st to 4th of 2020. We have a link on our webpage www.WNYDivisionNMRA.com to all of the excellent clinics and layouts for you to view. Some talented people provided clinics and some fantastic layouts to see. Please take a minute to check them out.

Don't forget that our store is now open for your use. You might want to pick up a hat, shirt, lapel pin, or nametag so you will be ready to hit the ground running when we are over this pandemic and can get back to meetings.

Let's not forget our "From the Back Seat," *A story of a boy growing up in the '50s* series by Gary Reynolds. These articles are fun to read, and do you remember when we were all riding in the back seat? I do.

It is really getting close to Christmas as I get this issue out, so let me say to all of you, I know next year will be more fun for us all, and I look forward to seeing all of you in person.

Merry Christmas and Happy Hanukkah to you all.

My Best

High Ball



From the Back Seat

A story of a boy growing up in the '50s.
by Gary Reynolds



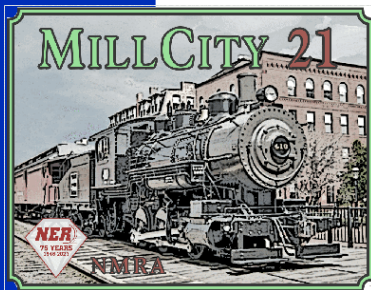
Article and Photos by Author

It was Saturday, and the family was going to see my cousin play baseball. He plays shortstop for St. Francis High School. We got to the field early and set up our lawn chairs to watch the game. I love going to this field because there is an Erie mainline right on the other side, and there seems to be a train going by every inning. Around the third inning, my dad pulled out a box of Cracker Jacks and

gave it to me. Where he was hiding the box, I'll never know. I can always tell when a train is coming because I hear the whistle for a grade crossing – two long, a short, and a long blast. It is my signal to pay attention to see what type of train is going by.

During the eighth inning, I got a real surprise; a Pennsy passenger train led by a famous K-series Pacific 2-6-4 steam engine. My dad said that there is work being done on the Pennsylvania mainline, and some of the trains are being routed over the Erie. Oh, what a day, a great baseball game, cracker jacks, AND a chance to see a mighty Pennsy Pacific

NERx Virtual Convention



Check out our website www.WNYDivisionNMRA.com to view the four days of clinics that the NERx presented from December 1st to 4th of this year. There are some great clinics available to all of us. There are clinics from Foreground Trees with Leaves by Jeff Gerow to Let's learn to operate local trains POFR for the beginner, at two part clinic.

There are also layout tours like the Danby, Ludlow & Springfield RR by Ned Spiller or Rails Across Marshfield by Mike Tylick or New York Central Harmon to Cold Spring layout by Victor Hand. There is a lot to see and learn from modelers who just live next door to us.

Don't forget that the NER is still planning on having their Regional Convention from October 8-11 of 2021. We hope to hear from the MER and the NFR for updates on their Regional Conventions for 2021. We will keep you posted.

What's on your Workbench?

Recently I asked our Superintendent, 'why don't we add a feature to the newsletter showcasing what members have on their workbench?'— a popular feature on NMRA sites and digital model railroad forums as well as Facebook modeling groups.

Remember, it does not have to be a finished model.

In the recent Lakeshores Division newsletter, they showed many "works in progress."

So here is my contribution. In November 2019, I decided to add a 3' x 8' peninsula to my layout to give my operators a chance to switch to a large industry consisting of two buildings with four tracks.

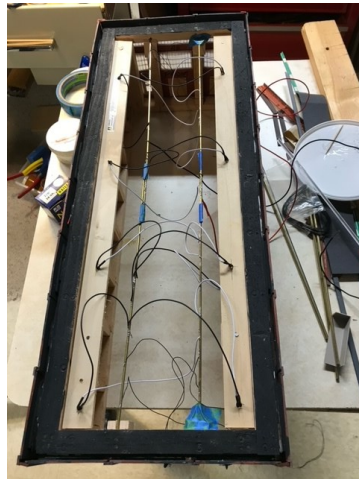
The addition gave me a chance to build benchwork, lay track, wire, build buildings, and scenery. With a layout height of 54", it was an ideal opportunity to light the buildings and add lots of detail. I still have piping to add between the buildings and a lot more detail as well.

Attached are a few progress photos.

Photo #1 shows one of the buildings where I added LEDs and incandescent lights. The other pics show the buildings on the peninsula.

Frank Pastore
Assistant Superintendent

All photos by the Author.





Links and Notes

Click on any of the logo's to be taken to their websites.



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

www.WNYDivisionNMRA.com

Check it out.



Great job, Jim Torgeson has done an excellent job for us by setting up and maintaining a presence for us on Facebook. We can now be found at [https://](https://www.facebook.com/NMRA.WNY/)

www.facebook.com/NMRA.WNY/

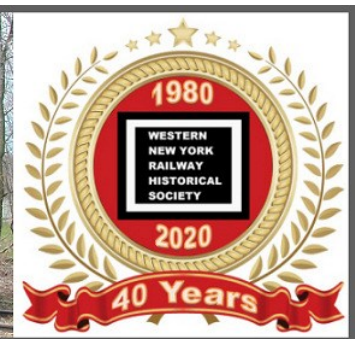
Thank you Jim for all your work.



Don't forget that the award winning series "15 Minutes with Clark " will be at our next meeting

Our store is open.

Look for new items coming soon.



Western New York Railway Historical Society has always been gracious to us and are efforts. They have provided us a home place to meet when we needed one. Please become a [member](#) or make a [donation to them](#). They could use our help since their sites are unable to open. Now is a good time to give back.

Western New York Division of the NMRA



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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.



Member Profile

Hi

For those who do not know me, I am one of the people who served on our Election Committee, along with Ron Tober and Fred Snyder.

I am a fan of the Lehigh Valley RR, "Route of the Black Diamond." In 1792 the Lehigh Coal Mine started mine operations from the newly discovered Anthracite coal deposits in northeastern Pennsylvania. Entrepreneurs quickly

developed railroads to get the coal to the cities of the northeast for heating fuel.

The Delaware, Lehigh, Schuylkill & Susquehanna Railroad was formed in 1847, and in 1853, Asa Packer purchased the DLS&S and renamed it the Lehigh Valley. The Lehigh Valley has suffered its ups and downs with the coal industry, and finally, in April 1976, it became part of the Consolidated Rail Corporation or Conrail for short. For more history on the "Route Of The Black Diamond." (The Black Diamond is, of course, coal), [click here](#).

I model the Lehigh from White Haven, Pa. to Bear Creek, Pa., which is just south of Wilkes-Barre, Pa. I am starting the scenery part, which I am not too sure how that will work out. I am an engineer by trade,

so I enjoyed the design work, the bench-work, and the electrical. (I am using MRC) Time will tell as I have a family, and I am still working. I work at RP Adams as a Mechanical Engineer; we supplied companies like APV in its day and many others. So, time is an issue, but I am having fun with it.

When this Covid-19 thing is over, I look forward to meeting more of you and sharing scenery ideas.

Stay healthy

I am the NMRA

Paul MacPherson



THE LANTERN

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.

November Birthdays
Happy Birthday
Edward Kowal