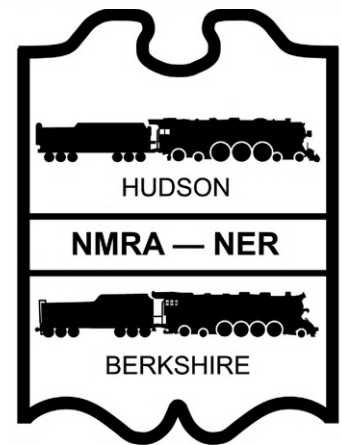


FORM 19

**The Official Newsletter of the
Hudson-Berkshire Division
of the NER NMRA**



Order Number 374

March 2022

Next Division Meeting

March 26th

Saturday 10:00am to 1:00 pm

3D Printing presentation By Mark Sklar

Piracci Board Room at Clifton Park-Halfmoon Public Library

From the Editor By MARK SKLAR

It has been a busy winter. I have been in contact with a lot of HBD members recently and there are a lot of modeling projects going on. I finally finished my railroad signaling system and it is awesome to watch the signal aspects change on the four track main. There was a great turnout for our February meeting which featured a presentation by James Lauser on DecoderPro. It was nice to have an in-person meeting again.

The March meeting will be a presentation by me on 3D printing. See page 4 for more information on this presentation. If you have done a 3D printing project then please bring it to the meeting for all to see. I believe 3D printing will be very popular in the near future for us model railroaders.

John Valachovic has some very useful information for finding modeling techniques on YouTube and Facebook on page 5. I have spent many on-line hours watching different modelers' techniques and have learned a lot, so I know John is correct with the information in his article. Thank you John!

On Page 6 there is a short report on the February meeting.

Finally, Doug Dederick has planned our April and May meetings, so save the dates, see page 4.

See you here next month.

-Mark



Form19

The *Form19* is published ten times per year for members of the Hudson Berkshire Division.

The opinions expressed do not necessarily reflect those of the Division. Products and publications mentioned in *Form19* in no way constitute an endorsement by the Division.

Contributing to the Form19

The *Form19* staff welcomes all contributions. Letters, articles, photos, and other items may be mailed or e-mailed to the editor. Please include a note if you would like materials returned. Suggestions also welcome.

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The Ready Line

By Irwin D. Nathanson

I've been your President for almost 3.5 years. By my count, this Ready Line is almost my 40th! Given that I've covered so many topics over the past years, I've somewhat run out of ideas and themes for this column! So back in June, I asked our Form 19 Editor, Mark Sklar, for ideas to help inspire me in the right directions. He came back with a comprehensive list of suggestions. To be candid, I don't feel qualified to tackle some of them in sufficient detail. As the Brits would say, I'll give it a go, addressing at least some of them starting with this issue.

Benefits of Joining a Historical Society

Mark's suggestion was to highlight the benefits of joining a historical society.

This subject is quite timely since the New York Central System Historical Society (NYCSHS) will be holding its 2022 convention right in our backyard, in Albany. The event will be held 13 – 15 May at the Crowne Plaza Hotel on Albany Shaker Road. (This is the new name of the Desmond, where HBD last hosted a NER Convention.)

As stated on their web site, members benefit from the first-hand knowledge of former NYCS employees and from the expertise of NYC historians, researchers, modelers, and writers who will help with answers to questions about NYCS history, locos, rolling stock, structures, and operating practices.

Other benefits include access to historical archives, attendance at NYCSHS conventions, two quarterly publications ("NYC Highlight" and "NYC Modeler"), and 20% discounts at the Society's on-line store.

The highlight of their convention in Albany will be their Train and Railroadiana Show on Sunday the 15th from 10 AM – 3 PM. (Note: attendance is free, and you don't need to be a NYCSHS member to attend.)

Good Train-Spotting Locations in Our Area

Mark's idea here was to ask our members for their suggestions. So, who has some good spots to share? Please let Mark and I know, and we'll include something in an upcoming issue.

However, to get the ball rolling, I already have a great suggestion from our long-time member Robert Mohowski. This is something he heard about from his friend, Vincent Zablocki from New Jersey.

As Vince reports, "Nothing like having a place to eat that puts you right next to the railroad action and spectacular views of the Hudson. We were in the Newburgh area and ate at Hudson Taco, which shares the old New York Central RR station with The Pizza Shop. Outdoor seating is currently just for the Hudson Taco. We had the ultimate seat for eating some goodies and catching three north bounds."

(Ready Line Continued on next page)



(Ready Line Continued)



Come sunny and warmer weather, this looks like a fun thing to do when my grandson comes to visit in April! He'll be about two and he already loves trains!

Interesting Little-Known Museums

Mark's idea here was to ask our members for their suggestions. So, who has some museums to share? Please let Mark and I know, and we'll include something in an upcoming issue.

I did a quick Google search for "train museums in New York." Here is a list of the 18 "hits" that came up right away, and this is just in New York State:

- Empire State Railway Museum
- Hyde Park station (New York Central Railroad)
- Lisbon Railroad Depot
- Martisco station
- Mayville station (New York)

- Medina Railroad Museum
- New York Museum of Transportation
- New York Transit Museum
- North Creek station
- Orchard Park station
- Oyster Bay station
- Piermont station
- Railroad Museum of Long Island
- Railroad Museum of the Niagara Frontier
- Rochester & Genesee Valley Railroad Museum
- Roxbury station
- Trolley Museum of New York
- Wantagh Railroad Complex

Have you ever visited any of these? Can you share your experiences with our Editor for inclusion in future Form 19s?

I have one to add, but it's not in New York. It's Exporail, which is, in effect, the national train museum of Canada. If you take I-87 due north and then enter Canada north of Plattsburgh, this puts you onto Canada 15. From there it's only about an hour to the

southern suburbs of Montreal where the museum is located. Unless things have changed, you don't even need a passport, but you would need an "Enhanced" driver's license. I would check the latest COVID-19 regulations before planning a trip. This museum is fantastic!

See: <https://exporail.org/>

Mark's original list of suggestions included 13 great ideas. I've covered three of them in this column. Actually, last month I covered one (Is the hobby dying?) So, that's really four down and nine to go!

OK, folks, that's it for this month. Take care everyone; stay safe and happy!

Irwin



You have probably received an email from the Northeastern Region office announcing that the latest issue of the Coupler is now online. The NER website is - [NER Coupler](#).



HBD Upcoming Meetings/Events

March 26th

Saturday 10:00am to 1:00 pm

3D Printing presentation By Mark Sklar

Piracci Board Room at Clifton Park-Halfmoon Public Library

The Next NERx is March 21-24

Check NERX.org for the schedule of events.

April Meeting

Saturday 23th 9:30am to 1:30pm

**Mike Evans will give a Power Point presentation of the
Delaware & Hudson's Rutland Branch**

May 21st Saturday

Joint meeting with Central Division

Open house on 5 local layouts in our Division

More details to follow next month

3D Printing for Model Railroaders Presentation

On Saturday, March 26th Mark Sklar will give a presentation on 3D printing using the latest technology. 3D printers are now available that a modeler can afford and print highly detailed parts. Mark will bring some of his projects that he has completed. The presentation will show what hardware and applications are needed to get started. If any members have done any 3D printing, please bring your project so members can see what can be done these days.

If you can draw it, then you can print it!

**Please visit the
Hudson Berkshire Division Website:
<http://www.hudson-berkshire.org/>**

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Railroad Modeling Using Alternate Resources

By: John Valachovic

There are lots of tried-and-true resources for Model Railroaders to use. Sources like model railroad magazines will continue to be places to refer to in the future. I recently went back into the “stacks” of my library in the shop for the April 2004 issue of **Model Railroader** looking for drawings for a New York Central 19000 series caboose Harold Russel had done. I’m gathering that information for a 21st century idea. I used Facebook, in particular the New York Central Fan group to find out what issue the drawings were in, I then went to the New York Central Historical Society to download what they had on the cabooses. I am gathering these data points for a potential 3D printing project. In researching 3D printers, I went down a serious rabbit hole on YouTube. 3D printers are used extensively by the Dungeons & Dragons and War Gaming Community, in particular resin printers due to the fineness of detail they produce.

Watching these YouTube videos explaining 3D printers led me into more videos on terrain modeling and basing. They call building structures and features Terrain Building, and Basing is where they scenic the bases of the miniature figures. A whole new world opened for me. Some of the people on these sites are amazing artists and have applicable techniques for our hobby. Admittedly their buildings and structures lean towards dark colors

and a fantasy vibe, but tips on using a mix of Modge Podge and acrylic paint over foam insulation to harden it after carving and various recipes for making washes were very helpful. Their hobby relies heavily on shaping, cutting and carving foam insulation. Many videos on building walls were directly applicable to model railroading. I had carved a retaining wall for the Raquette Lake Railway that was ok but after watching a couple videos, I was able to improve it greatly utilizing techniques I learned by watching the videos. The next one will be even better based on all I have learned.

The gaming community uses a lot of the same scenic techniques as we do, including the use of static grass. There are lots of videos on how to make clumps of static grass and how to make sheets of clumps that are like the commercially available products we use. They also use ground foam like we do but sometimes in ways I never thought of. Often applying ground foam to vertical or near vertical surfaces can be challenging, one technique I picked up is using PVA glue (Elmers) and ground foam mixed and painted on the surface. This allows you to brush the paste on the surface and have it stay in place.

Another interesting tidbit was using a UV light-cured resin to do streams of water or ice features. It is also used to make small castings by pouring it into a mold and

exposing it to a small UV light to harden it. This was a great intersection of what is being done in their community with our hobby. I have always looked at the broader modeling community for interesting ideas that I could apply to my modeling. This can include checking out what is being done in other countries, other scales, and other modeling styles. There is so much creativity out there and social media and things like YouTube can be a great resource.

I at one time owned a couple of Yahoo Groups, and also belonged to a few message or forum boards. These were great resources at the time. Most participants that I knew on those sites have migrated to Facebook Groups. Lots of people, including me originally, shy away from Facebook due to the horror stories they have heard about airing dirty laundry, raging arguments online, etc. The truth is that it is just another tool. If you want drama, you sure can find it, but it also is full of great groups dedicated to all sorts of hobbies and interests. It is also instantaneous; you can ask a question and usually get feedback immediately. This also pertains to showing your work off and there are lots of groups that welcome content from members. I have created a group dedicated to my layout where I can share information and photos of my progress. I also have a separate group I use as a blog and storage space. When I find an interesting post on Facebook



(Continued from page 5)

regarding models or prototypes I can post it there to be easily found later. The sheer amount of prototype information available on these groups is staggering and if learning about a prototype or railroad operations is your thing, there are almost endless sources.

Other interesting things I have learned include shop organization and workbench design. Adam Savage from Mythbusters has a large body of work dedicated to building shop infrastructure and

some of the thought processes and theories that go into designing a maker's shop. I have found much of his content applicable to my own workspace. Ideas like parts organization and supply organization has proven very helpful. I also got other ideas on shop aesthetics and organization from the Gaming YouTube content providers. This is especially helpful in designing a workspace that shares space in the actual layout room. I have found good information on containing the mess

and making a space that is comfortable and pleasant to be in by watching different people all over the world that produce content. I recently applied all this information to a renovation of my maker's space.

Looking outside your regular bubble can really improve your model building and your skill as a maker.

John

February Meeting Report

There were 22 members present at the Clifton Park Library for the meeting. The snow storm probably reduced participation.

The February meeting started with the mention of the passing of Paul Werschler and Dick Hosmer

with a moment of silence. New members Edward Wojcik and Dana Atwood were **introduced and some business was discussed.** HBD president Irwin Nathanson was presented the AP certificate for "Association Official".

James Lauser gave an excellent presentation of DecoderPro with a demonstration using some locomotives and an oval track he brought.





In Memoriam

Richard "Dick" Hosmer

I attended the division meeting this past Saturday and someone remarked that Dick Hosmer passed on February 12th.

Dick was a longtime member of the Wednesday night group and was often found switching Utica on Henry's layout. It was at my first Mohawk Valley operating session that Dick explained the locations on the layout and how it corresponded with the prototype.

About a month later we attended the Syracuse train show and Marcel

wanted to take the train to the show from Schenectady. I think our group was Dick, Marcel, Muriel, Rich, myself and maybe Joe or Tom for the outing. On the trip out Dick showed me all the prototype locations that corresponded to Henry's layout and shared his great depth of knowledge of track work.

The Wednesday group would skip meeting on the day before Thanksgiving, but Dick, Marcel and myself would often meet up for an operating session at Marcel's.

Fond memories.

Kevin Surman

ed. The obituary for Dick can be found at:

<https://www.legacy.com/us/obituaries/timesunion-albany/name/richard-hosmer-obituary?id=33131843>



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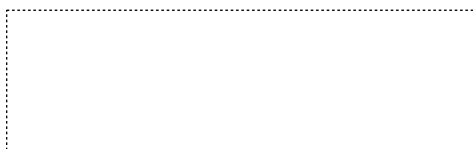
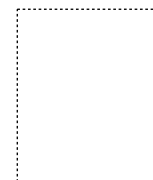
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