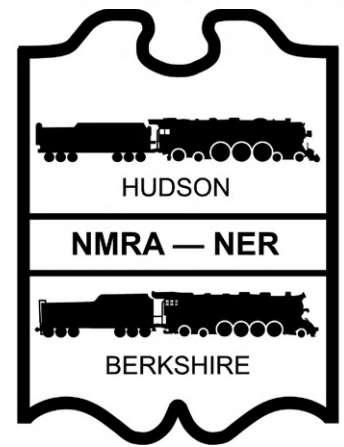


FORM 19

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



Order Number 409

October 2025

**October 2025 Division Meeting
Friday evening, October 24th from 7 PM until 9 PM
"SHOW and TELL"
Malta Community Center
Located at #1 Bayberry Dr, Malta, NY off of Rte 9.
(For GPS use Ballston Spa, NY 12020)**

Hudson Berkshire Division Show and Tell

Hello everyone. Well here we are, another summer has come and gone and now we are officially into our fall season. This is the time for most of us train and model enthusiast to put away our gardening tools and replace them with our modeling tools. For me I have a couple of projects in mind for those cold winter days and nights to complete a couple of structures I have been wanting to build for the layout. What about you, do you have any projects planned? Do you have an unfinished building or box cars sitting on the workbench? Or perhaps like me you haven't started them but you have the drawings or blueprints for them. Maybe you have a building kit sitting in a box you would like to build? Whatever it is we would like you to share it with the rest of us. So for our next meeting we will be having a "Show & tell" Whatever it is you have that you would like to share with us, finished or unfinished, or perhaps you have an item that has a story, what ever it may be please bring it to share it with all of us. So let's all pack up what we have and bring it to our next meeting for little "Show and Tell".

Thanks,
Doug Dederick



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 Division Point

By Artie Krass

A big thanks to Don Klose and his family for hosting our September meeting and pizza social! We had a really nice turnout and enjoyed seeing Don's Lionel basement layout along with all of the history of Lionel in his garage. A true legend in the Lionel community. Our October meeting will be Friday, October 24th at the Malta Community Center. We will be having a Show and Tell, similar to what we had last February. I invite you all to bring what you are working on, completed or thinking about doing to show the members and tell your story. If you have something to Show and Tell that you cannot bring, i.e., work on your layout, diorama or workbench please send me a picture or two or a short video. I will be bringing my laptop and projector so you can Show and Tell on the "big screen". We will also be having a raffle at the October meeting of some recently donated items with all proceeds to benefit our JP's Toys for Tots campaign.

The November meeting is still in the planning stages so more to come on the time, location and what the meeting will be. A reminder that we will be holding elections at our November meeting for a Board Member and Vice President. James Lauser has graciously agreed to run again for the seat on the Board of Directors,

and we are still looking for a candidate for Vice President.

Just a reminder again - on December 7th we will again be having our annual Great Train Extravaganza from 10 AM until 4 PM at the Empire State Plaza Convention Center in Albany, N.Y. Volunteers will be needed for both the show date and the Saturday before (December 6th) – more to come on that but save the date.

I recently got an email from the Activity Director at the NYS Firefighters Home in Hudson, NY in regard to their Train Club at the facility. The person who regularly conducts the Club meetings was injured in an accident and hasn't been able to run any meetings and they were looking for help to run the meetings in the interim. I went down to the home this past Monday (the 6th) and met with the staff and got a tour of the facility. The Club has a train room on the lower level in which they have a small tabletop Z scale layout, a small tabletop N scale layout, an HO scale layout and they are in the process of building a good size O scale layout on a roughly 8' by 20' table. And there is a large amount of donated and purchased items for each of the existing layouts – quite impressive!

I am heading down there on Wednesday October 15th at 2 PM to run a meeting for them.

(continued on page 4)

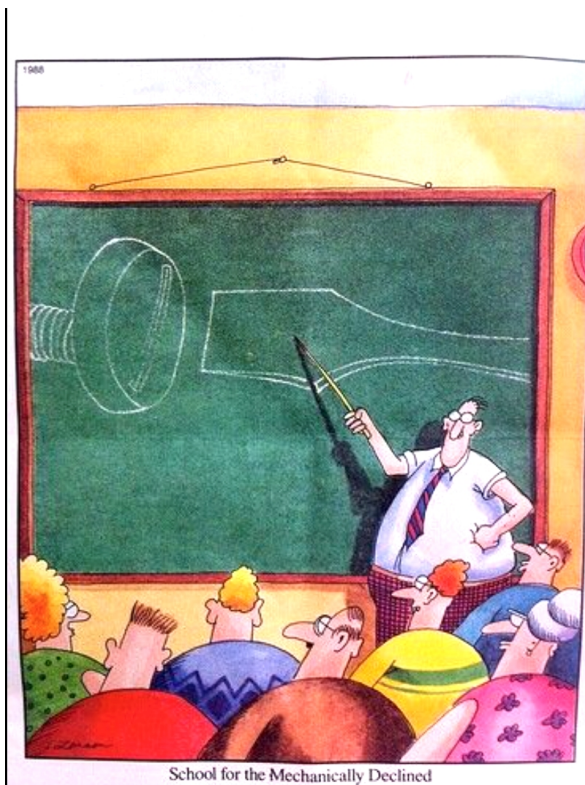


Sudoku for a Retired Railroader.....

By Charles Newton

Before our 'summer recess' I was consumed with modeling the 'floating bridge' (currently being replaced by CSX Transportation) near Savannah NY. This is on the former New York Central Mainline of the Syracuse Division between Rochester and Syracuse. Two parallel double track deck bridges extend across a portion of the Montezuma Wildlife Preserve for about 2000 feet. The CSXT is pile driving into the muck seeking bedrock, which turns out to be about 180 feet below the swamp surface. The original double track bridges were built around 1900, and have been a railroad maintenance project ever since. The piers literally float and as they sink, the railroad has to keep applying blocking, shims and caps to keep the bridges level. ConRail replaced many piers in the 1980's. One of the deck bridges was abandoned, leaving the other double track bridge to handle the traffic. The bridges had speed restrictions, but in 1950-1953 era which I model, were permitted 60 mph. Currently, the speed limit is 40 mph. See photos below.

Photos of the bridges are scarce as the location is remote and roads into the location are poor. Drones have provided the technology needed to photograph the bridges now. Several pictures have appeared on the internet. One photo exists in a book and one in the NYC Historical Society Archives as well. Since the north deck bridge has been razed, the construction techniques used throughout the 20th century to maintain the bridge piers are now exposed. This project is further complicated for me because a set track water pans on the west end of the bridge existed in my modeling era. In order to complete my mainline loop, the bridges need to be installed. The challenge remains: do or do not; there is no try. See ad for helpful beginner instructional class I attend daily below, left. It really helps.



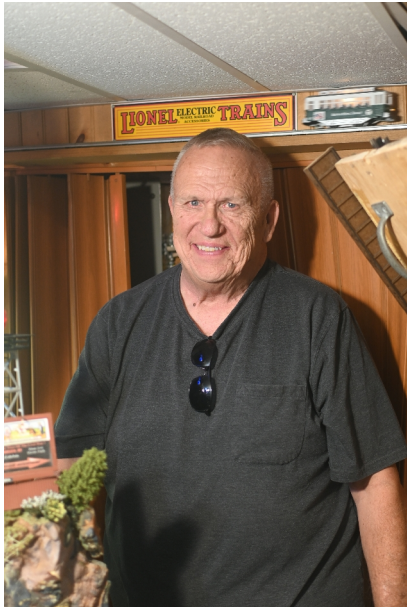


The Division Point – October 2025 continued from page 2

They really get together to run trains, talk model railroading and to socialize. Anyone is welcome to join me!
Did I mention that we need a candidate to run for Vice President in November! Contact any Division officer if you are interested

Happy modeling and hope to see you all soon,
Artie

PS: attached are some pictures of September host Don Klose and his Bellevue & Schenectady Railroad. For more information, please visit Don's website
www.bellevueandschenectadyrr.com



Don's railroad has been featured in numerous model railroad magazines. Don's philosophy is, "We are all part of a great hobby! Build it and share it. And Happy Railroading!"





Upcoming Meetings/Events

HBD Monthly Meeting

Friday October 24th
Malta Community Center
7pm-9pm
“Show and Tell”

*****HBD Yearly Elections in November*****

Looking for a candidate for the position of Vice President

Great Train Extravaganza (GTE)

Sunday December 7th
10 AM until 4 PM
Empire State Plaza
Volunteers needed - also volunteers needed to help with setup on
Saturday December 6th

Springfield Bus Trip

Our annual bus trip to the Amherst Railroad Hobby Show
Saturday January 24th, 2026
Signups will start in early November

*****Division Badges Are Available*****

If you do not have a Hudson Berkshire Division name badge or have lost your original one and would like it replaced, contact:

Bert Pflagl at bpflagl@gmail.com, phone 518-235-8496

or

Ben Maggi at BenLMaggi@hotmail.com, phone 585-506-2680

Please provide your name as you want it to appear and the place of residence that you want - just community or city and state.

Please visit:

Hudson Berkshire Division Website:

<http://www.hudson-berkshire.org/>

Facebook Pages:

<https://www.facebook.com/HudsonBerkshireNMRA/>

Hudson-Berkshire NMRA Group

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/809686920433872/>

“Hudson-Berkshire Division of the NMRA” YouTube Channel

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCE4Em3wMYwj5Z3ynfNsla8g/featured>

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