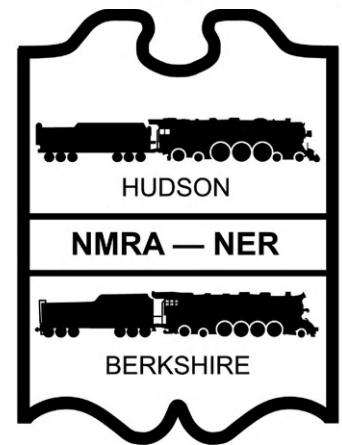


FORM 19

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



Order Number 408

September 2025

Saturday September 20th HBD Meeting,
PIZZA SOCIAL 10:30am-1:30pm
Don Klose Home
442 Brandywine Ave, Schenectady

Hello everyone! I hope everyone has had a good summer. Yup, here we are in September with fall around the corner, and with that comes our monthly HBD meetings. September we will be kicking things off with a “PIZZA SOCIAL” at Don Klose’s Lionel ‘O gauge’ **Bellevue and Schenectady Railroad**. Don was gracious enough to offer to host once again for us this year. Below are a few pictures of Don’s layout.

During our visit we will have pizza delivered (around noon time) and Don will have tables and chairs set up in his garage. That’s the plan!

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

I hope everybody had a good summer and a functioning air conditioner! The Division break for the summer is now over and we have a pretty active Fall and early Winter calendar of events ahead. In lieu of our thrice canceled attempt at a picnic at ALS, Doug has added a “pizza social” to our September meeting at Don Klose’s house so hope to see you there – more info in this Edition of the Form 19.

Speaking of Conventions – the 2028 NMRA Annual Convention will be coming to a city near you – Rochester NY to be exact, hosted by the NER – the *Empire State Express 2028*. The NER folks have been working diligently behind the scenes with the NMRA with the result that the NMRA National Convention was awarded to the NER. This will be a great opportunity to attend the National Convention – more to come as volunteers will be needed to make this event a success – again more to come.

November will be the time for the annual HBD election of officers. James Lauser will be running again for a member of the Board of

Directors. However, we need a candidate to run for a 2-year term for the position of Vice President. Doug Dederick, who has filled that position ably for the past “umpteens years”, has decided it is time to pass the torch – a big thanks for all of his efforts and dedication Doug has put in as VP!

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.

Our annual bus trip to the Railroad Hobby Show in West Springfield, Ma. will be on January 24th, 2026. Signups will begin in November 2025 – look for an email with all of the details and signup forms in late October – a day not to be missed. **In March of 2026** we will again be presenting the annual NERx – four evenings of clinics, roundtable discussions, layout tours, tips and tricks and the model showcase. I hope to see more contributions by Division members so start planning now if you are interested in doing a presentation or submitting a model for the Model Showcase. More information to come in the months ahead, but feel free to contact me

THE DIVISION POINT

Continued on page 4



Todd Burdick tells the story of the Richfield Railroad, his Family's Labor of Love model railroad - Part 2

Since childhood, I have amassed a collection of over 250 die-cast vehicles. Although they are mostly Hot Wheels, Matchbox, Johnny Lightning, and other similar brands, and thus not to scale, I have added them to the layout. At first, I hesitated putting my 1:64 scale vehicles onto a 1:87 scale layout. Being new to the world of model railroading, I was concerned that this might be immoral, unethical, illegal, or perhaps all three. However, my wife assured me that it was now my layout, so I could do whatever I wanted with it, and the Scale Police would not come to issue me a ticket or arrest me. To further put me at ease, I soon realized that Big Al had placed a half dozen or so 1:64 scale vehicles on the layout, mixed in among his HO vehicles. All scales are welcome on the RRR.

Like most model railroaders, I have many projects on the to-do list. Some I know of, and some I have not yet imagined, so the RRR will never really be finished. Next on the list: I recently purchased a kit that will soon become Richfield City Hall, with Mayor Big Al Richard forever in office.



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

John Bollentin of Burnt Hills NY

Linda Colden of Voorheesville NY

Philip Klimczak of Howes Caves, NY



THE DIVISION POINT continued....

for more information and details anytime soon as the North East Region Committee meets on a regular basis.
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

From Member Brian Dermody who wrote to say this about his layout:

Among many structures included in my 'O scale' layout is the Lionel Diner. Diners were quite

popular 'hang outs' of the past. Many folk would visit for coffee and make new friends.

The trolley makes daily stops to diner, as well as shops and near by movie theater....



On July 12, 2025 I had the honor of attending a ceremony in Scranton, PA recognizing Southern Pacific locomotive engineer Doyle McCormack for his efforts to retrieve from Mexico and to restore the only operable PA-4 locomotive in the US. Mr. McCormack, along with his wife Laurie, were presented with a replica cast ALCO-GE builders' plate for NKP 190 by David Monte Verde, Chairman of Genesee Valley Transportation. GVT Rail purchased the locomotive, shipped it to Scranton and brought it back into full running condition.



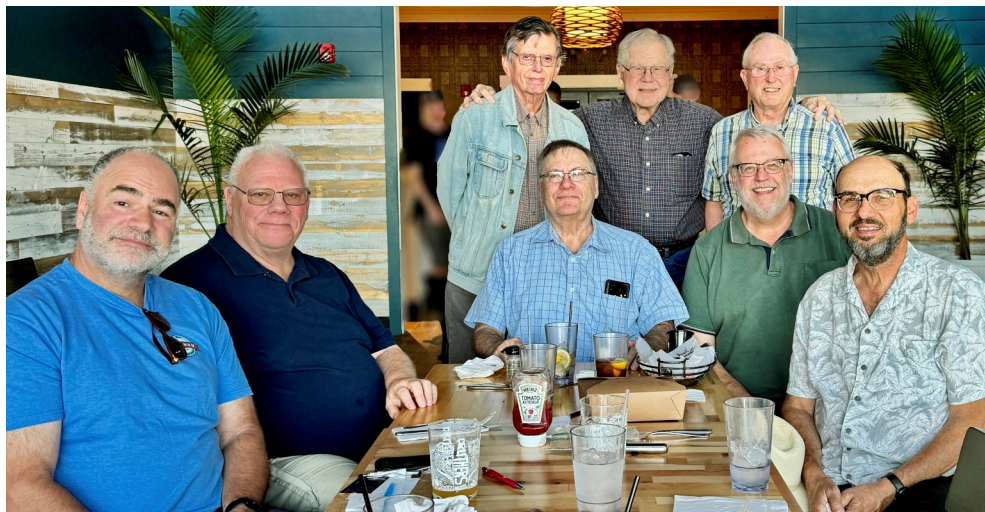


Sudoku' for a Retired Railroader. . . .By Charles Newton, Editor

Summer uses up a couple months, and even if you don't have an active family, you might just need outdoor time to take care of gardens and lawns. The model railroad takes a position of '3rd out on the board' during the summertime. Fall isn't a whole lot better as far as lawn cleanup time is concerned. Enough excuses. The hour glass continues draining its sand. The Hudson-Berkshire group lost an active member July 20th, Joe Martinec. Joe was 76 years old and had a basement railroad set up, modeled on the Delaware and Hudson in the Adirondacks. He joined the organization a couple years ago, and had a couple open houses. Recently a work crew was formed to dismantle Joe's layout. Between the people who have moved,, been incapacitated, or having passed on, this organization has begun morphing into a more less active setting, or so it seems. The Capital District had two operating groups, one on Wednesdays, and one on Tuesdays. The Wednesday group has diminished a lot due to the list of reasons previously given. I myself have not progressed enough to have even 'a train operating round the room on the plywood central' session.

I enclose a picture of Joe Martinec and Doug Dederick with Mike Lacasse visiting George Sellios' Franklin and Manchester on October 18th, 2024. Also, Bob Hamm stopped by for a visit and dinner with Paul Hoffman, Mike Hachey, Bob Mohowski, Bob Chase, Rich Smith, Dennis Hultay and myself on August 21. The next day we congregated at Kevin Surman's for a brief operating session.

The mantra keeps swirling around in my head: "Do or do not, there is no try!"





Upcoming Meetings/Events

HBD Monthly Meeting

Saturday September 20th

At the home of Don Klose

Lionel scale layout

10:30 AM to 1:30 PM

HBD Pizza Party

*****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 bpflegl@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>

FORM 19

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