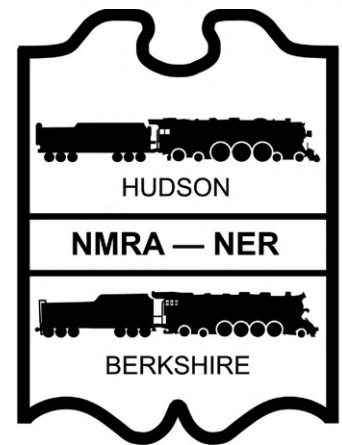


# FORM 19

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



**Order Number 395**

**March 2024**

## **March Division Meeting**

**Friday, March 15<sup>th</sup> 7pm to 10pm  
S Scale Layout Home Visit  
Dennis Hultay  
19 Collins Terrace  
Saratoga Springs, NY**

### **From the Editor . . . . By MARK SKLAR**

We hope you can join us at our March meeting, as we will be visiting Dennis Hultay's S scale layout. The layout construction is very unique and has a very impressive collection of New York Central S scale rolling stock. See page 3 for details on the meeting.

Our February meeting had a good turnout for the Show and Tell. Members presented their projects and answered questions. See page 4 for the member presentations.

Our Vice President Doug Dederick has announced that The HBD will be holding a raffle (all proceeds will go to the Paul Werschler Toys for Tots Fund). The winner will receive a Gift Certificate for a one night stay in a 1912 wooden caboose located at the Chester Railway Station Museum, Chester MA. Tickets will be available at our next two meetings and the drawing will be held during our April meeting. (participants do not need to be present in order to win. ) If you would like a ticket and are unable to attend please notify our President or Vice President (or Mike Hachey at michaelchachey@outlook.com). Tickets are \$10 each (3 for \$25)

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.

**Hudson Berkshire Division  
PO Box 83**

**Clifton Park, NY 12065-0083  
[trains@hudson-berkshire.org](mailto:trains@hudson-berkshire.org)**

President

Benjamin Maggi

602 Albany Shaker Road  
Loudonville, NY 12211

585-506-2680

[BenLMaggi@hotmail.com](mailto:BenLMaggi@hotmail.com)

Vice President

Doug Dederick

32 Van Dyke Drive South  
Rensselaer, NY 12144

518-283-5063

[dougdedrick7@gmail.com](mailto:dougdedrick7@gmail.com)

Treasurer

Benjamin Maggi

602 Albany Shaker Road  
Loudonville, NY 12211

585-506-2680

[BenLMaggi@hotmail.com](mailto:BenLMaggi@hotmail.com)

*Form19* Editor

Mark Sklar

121 Brandon Ter.  
Albany, NY 12203

(518) 229-9421

[mark4527841@gmail.com](mailto:mark4527841@gmail.com)

Bert Pflagl

Associate Editor

[bpflagl@gmail.com](mailto:bpflagl@gmail.com)

GTE Manager

James Lauser

1814 Park Blvd  
Troy, NY 12180

[james@jlauser.net](mailto:james@jlauser.net)

(518) 528-5453

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# The President's Corner

By Ben Maggi

I am just getting over my cold as I write this, and I am very disappointed I couldn't attend the show and tell meeting in February. By all accounts it was a great time and a lot of people brought something interesting to share. Congratulations to Edward Cady who won a Hudson Berkshire baseball hat. If you ever have the chance, ask Ed what railroad he is modeling. It is a fascinating subject.

I have found that we all have stories to tell regarding the projects we work on. Rarely do we ever set out to build something that we don't care about, or which we don't have a personal interest in. Creating models takes effort, money, time, and sometimes a bit of research, and who wants to do that for something they aren't drawn to? When I was building models for my M.M.R. certificates I picked subjects that spoke to me. Some were local industries, some were based on childhood railroads, one was based on a Great Western Railway (British) prototype because I was goaded into it, and a few were things that just seemed challenging and would push my skills. But all of them spoke to me.

Along those lines, our family was invited to visit a layout recently of a modeler who lives in Altamont. James Gardner Jr., who invited the Division to his house for our May 2018 meeting, held another open house and we went over one afternoon to see what he had been up to. In a space of about 14x30 feet he had a large open area with

multiple individual loops of track including, one center area where a Rio Grande "Galloping Goose" was going up and over itself on a scratch-built trestle that reminded me of the Ophir Loop in Colorado. In a different area, a half-dozen oil pumps (included at his wife's request) were working to extract liquid gold from the ground.

On one side was a nicely built town where a trolley car ran back and forth through the tight streets and around the buildings. On another side, a model of the station and gazebo in Altamont sat. From what James said both were based on the prototype structures. On the back side, a raised mountain complete with rock cliffs housed a western mining and lumber town where several trains ran around hauling minerals, timber, and tourists. The fourth side of the layout had a Shay locomotive running up and down an incline trestle built entirely from scratch.

There were at least seven trains running at the same time. These were three-rail, O scale models and included famous trains like the Southern Pacific "Daylight" with a full 9-car consist and the Milwaukee Road "Hiawatha" led by a bi-polar electric engine. Tucked away in a mountain was a full passenger train painted and lettered for the Strausburg Railroad. A long coal drag pulled by an articulated steamer slowly crawled along. And up in the mining town, scratch-built passenger cars and old-time freight cars were hauled by Shays, Heislars

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*(Presidents Corner Continued)*

and Climax engines. Most trains had full lights, sounds, and interiors.

James had a story to tell with his layout. He explained parts of it to us, but at the same time I couldn't get over how much fun it was to watch. Seeing the "Daylight" pull into Altamont seemed realistic, yet somewhere else the Road Runner (meep meep) popped out of his

tower to scare passing trains somehow felt right. It was Jame's layout, built to accomplish what he wanted, and he succeeded mightily. It must be a great place to just sit and watch trains go by. And yes, he loves the Road Runner!

In March and April we are going to see Dennis Hultay's S scale layout and Joe Martinec's HO layout. I have

never been to either but I can't wait to see what story each of them is telling with his layout. I hope you will come and join me in finding out.

See you at the next meeting!

Ben

## Upcoming Meetings/Events

**Friday, March 15<sup>th</sup> 7pm to 10pm**

**S Scale Layout Home Visit**

**Dennis Hultay**

**19 Collins Terrace**

**Saratoga Springs, NY**

**April Division Meeting**

**Friday, April 19, 7PM to 9:00 PM**

**Joe Martinec**

**HO Layout Visit**

### March Layout Visit

#### S scale Layout

by Dennis Hultay

The layout under construction is a loop-to-loop, multi-deck, spiral design in a 840sq.ft. L-shaped, finished basement. It is designed with 'operations' in mind, as well as to display a large 'S' (1/64) scale train collection. The triple-decked center peninsula frame is made of

steel, with two decks to be framed in wood around the outer walls, and a constant grade of 0.7% (1 inch rise every 12 feet). Total length of the two-track mainline will be 400 feet, with a minimum radius of 45 inches (equivalent to 33.75" in HO). The design has 13-foot long passing

sidings, which should accommodate trains with up to 8 passenger cars or 16 forty-foot freight cars. The basement has a separate, comfortable crew lounge with a bathroom.





## “Show And Tell”

By: Mark Sklar

Our February meeting started with a quick business meeting. Doug Dederick asked if there was interest in a bus day trip to see layouts or a museum. There seemed to be enough interest within the 20 members present for Doug to select a trip.

Nine members presented their project during the show and tell. Ed Cady won the HBD hat that was raffled off at the end of the meeting.

Thank you to everyone that participated to make this a successful event.



**Bob Mohowski brought an N&W HO scale caboose he built in 1965. It is one of the few items he kept after dissolving his layout.**



**Fred Kasparian brought an HO scale Walther's round house. Fred purchased it used and restored and repainted it.**

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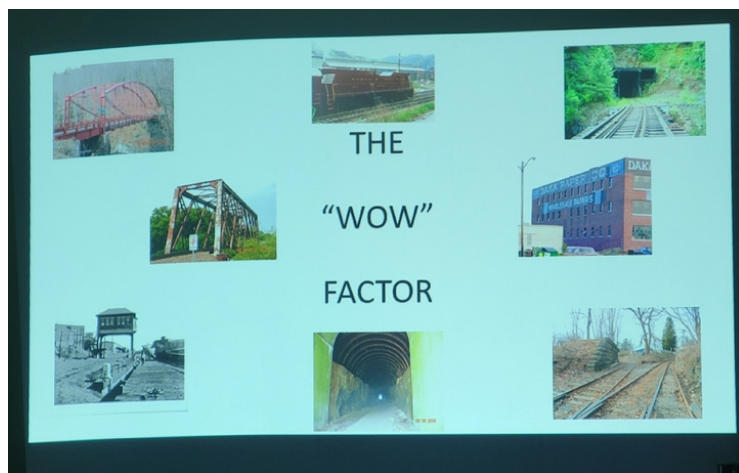
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Brian Dermody brought a G scale gazebo.



James Lauser brought the TCS DCC handheld controller. James had a working circle of track to demonstrate the controller.



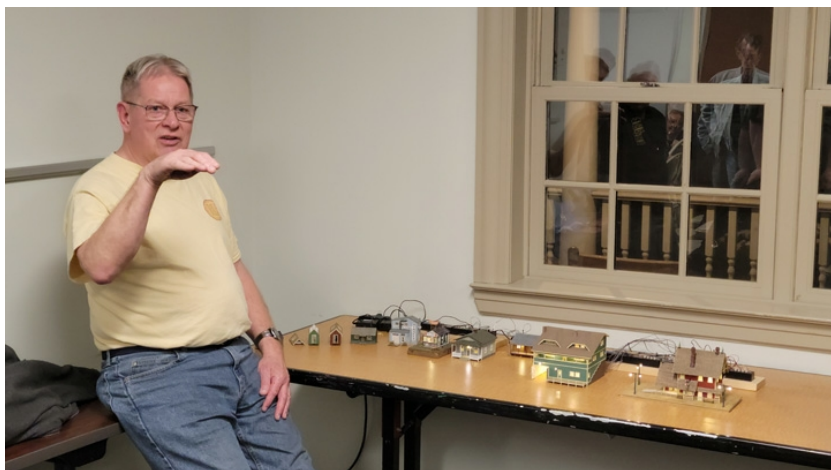
Tom Plesnarski gave a presentation he called THE "WOW" FACTOR. Tom explained what prototype railroad items he would like to have on his layout.

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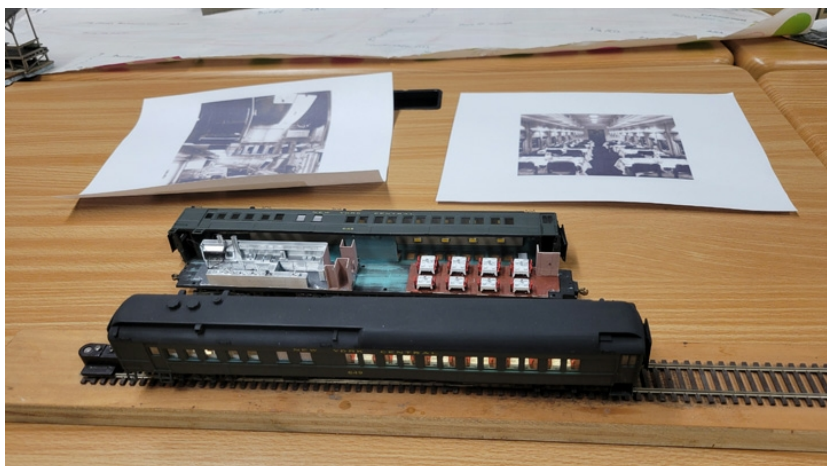




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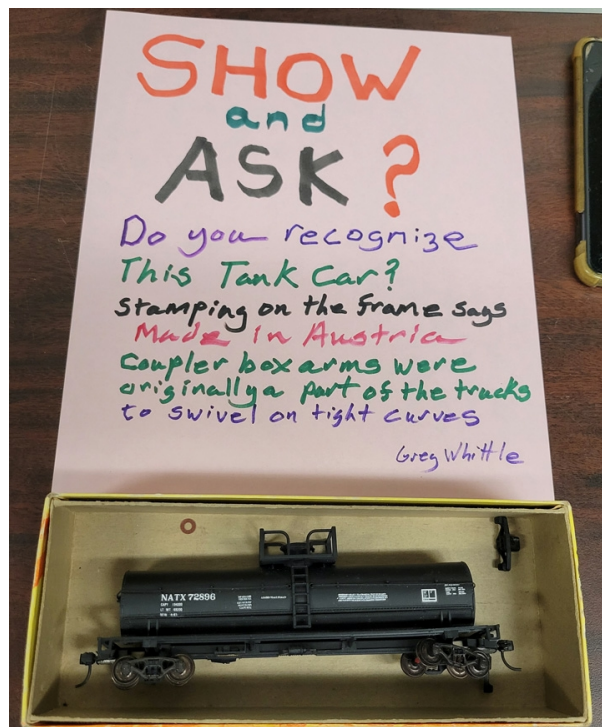


Ed Skowronek brought a group of HO scale craftsman kit buildings. Extra internal details and LED lighting was added.



Mark Sklar brought two New York Central diner cars. The HO scale cars were designed and 3D printed by Mark.

Greg Whittle brought an HO scale tank car to see if anyone could identify the manufacturer. No one at the meeting knew the manufacturer.



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Fred Gemmill was not able to attend the meeting , so he sent in pictures. He wrote: "I won't be at the meeting, but I'm sending you photos of what I would have brought. Cornerstone kit from Walthers, Lancaster House. Redid both porches and added stairs and railings. Had to ease house on foundation as the kit had no provision for floor joists."

Tony Steele brought a group of beautiful HO scale scratch-built buildings.



## NERx is Coming March 18-21

Back by popular demand, NERx, the virtual convention of the Northeastern Region, NMRA, is coming to a screen near you in March. The team is hard at work putting together another fantastic lineup of content, including Clinics, Layout Tours, and Roundtable Conversations. We will also be sharing your work in the Model Showcase and this year we are introducing Tips & Tricks, short video segments showing modeling tips that do not fill a full clinic.

Check out the schedule at <https://www.nerx.org/index.html>

**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**

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Hudson Berkshire Division  
PO Box 83  
Clifton Park, NY 12065-0083

**First Class Mail**