

<http://www.littlerhodydiv.org>

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The votes are in and have been tallied. Fifty-nine ballots were mailed to members and 28 were returned. Thank you for the great response!

Our officers and directors for the coming year are:

Superintendent	Sue Osberg
Assistant Superintendent	Brian Osberg
Chief Clerk	Dick Nagle
Paymaster	Shannon Dekonski
Director (1st year)	David Kiley
Director (2nd year)	George Landow

Continuing on the Board will be:

Past Superintendent	Steve Erickson
Webmaster	George Landow
Achievement Program	Justin Maguire
Membership	Linda Bergemann
T-TRAK Program	David Dekonski
Director at Large	Tom Emmett

NEWS FROM THE BOARD

1) BYLAWS

The Board met on June 15th to discuss changes to our ByLaws that may be needed to address changes enacted as a result of COVID-19. Of primary concern were our Elections and our Annual Meeting. As they stand, our ByLaws state that the "Annual Meeting...shall be held on a day of June each year" and that "All officers and one director shall be elected at the Annual Meeting...". The election has been completed, but the Annual Meeting has

been postponed until August. A review of the language concluded that the ByLaws do not require an in-person Annual Meeting and that a virtual meeting would meet the intent. However, the meeting will not be held in June this year, but will be held in August. **In the future, the Annual Meeting will be held in June, in-person or virtually. No changes were deemed necessary.**

While we concluded that no changes to sections of the ByLaws related to elections and Annual Meeting were needed, we did find that a change is needed to the section on Regular Meetings.

Section 4) REGULAR MEETINGS

a) Regular meetings of the membership are normally scheduled for the second (2nd) Wednesday of each month from September through May.

Discussion: Meetings have not been held on the second Wednesday for several years. At the present time we plan to continue to meet on Saturdays. The ByLaws should be amended to allow flexibility to meet on any day of the month scheduled by the Board and with prior notification the membership. The following amendment is proposed by the Board:

Section 4) REGULAR MEETINGS

a) Regular meetings of the membership shall be held monthly from September through May.

As required by the ByLaws, the proposed amendment will be published two times and then voted on at the Annual Meeting in August. A two-thirds affirmative vote of the membership present is needed to adopt.

2) PICNIC

The picnic is still on for July 18th. Due to limitations on the size of gatherings, we will impose a limit of 30 people. The Wlochowski's will be providing lasagna and salad. Others will be asked to bring munchies, bread and desserts. More to follow.

3) NEW ZOOM EVENTS IN JULY & AUGUST

Following a very successful event on June 6th, the Board has decided to add Zoom events on Saturdays, July 11 and August 15. These will follow the format we used in June, beginning at 9:30 AM. Details are being worked on,

but will likely include a presentation by George Landow on comics related to railroading, a tour of Tom Emmett's HO home layout, and a tour of David Kiley's garden railroad. If you have a presentation/clinic you would like to share, please contact David Kiley.

4) ANNUAL MEETING

After much consternation, we have decided to cancel the Annual Meeting and Dinner at Lang's Bowlarama. Risks associated with COVID-19 are considered too great. Instead, the Annual Meeting will be held in conjunction with our virtual event on August 15.

5) SAD NEWS

Long-time Little Rhody member Frank Perry passed away on June 9. His obituary appeared in the Providence Journal last week. Little Rhody will make a donation to the Coventry Food Bank in his memory.

6) INVITATION TO HUB MEETING - TOMORROW NIGHT!

Little Rhody members have been invited to join HUB Division for a Zoom meeting on Wednesday night, June 17th at 7:15 PM. HUB member Erich Whitney will present "The HUB Module Signaling System & Signaling Project Update." This is a presentation about the status of the HUB module signaling project with some background information about the implementation of signaling using CMRI, JMRI, and CATS. We'll talk about what gets added to the modules to support signaling (i.e. block detectors and signal heads) and the corresponding CMRI hardware needed as well as the software used to control it. This clinic will be part lecture and part discussion. Erich wants to be able to give enough background so that anyone who has not used signals before will have all the information they need to get started. In the latter part of the presentation, we'll switch over to more discussion and Q&A so that everyone has a chance to get their questions addressed.

To Join Zoom Meeting



FUTURE EVENTS

June

Wednesday, June 17th at 7:15 PM via Zoom. This is a HUB Division meeting. "The HUB Module Signaling System & Signaling Project Update"

by Erich Whitney, HUB Division. Link to Zoom meeting is above.

July

SUMMER PICNIC on Saturday, July 18th at the home of Mike and Jane Wlochowski, Westerly, RI. Details to follow as date approaches.

Saturday, July 11th via Zoom. Regular meeting, virtually. Details on clinics to follow.

August

ANNUAL BOD PLANNING MEETING on Saturday, August 1st. Let us know what you would like us to include in next year's programs. Clinics, speakers, field trips, etc. Call or e-mail me with your ideas.

Saturday, August 15th via Zoom. Annual Meeting (we will vote on amending the ByLaws) with clinics, virtually. Details on clinics to follow.

September

Saturday, September 12th at Cumberland Public Library, Diamond Hill Road, Cumberland, RI. A regular monthly meeting open to the public. Our *Rhode Island and Old Colony* N-scale T-TRAK layout, David Kiley's G-scale *Hogwarts Express*, and *The Polar Express* will be on display for the public to view.

As always, please contact me with any questions or issues. If I don't know the answer, I will pass it to someone who can. Also, if you have any suggestions for future events, please let me know.

Stay well,

Linda Bergemann
Membership Chair

Little Rhody Division NMRA
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