



NEWS

- It is with great sadness that we inform you of the passing of Henry Pierce. Henry passed away in early March; he was 96. Henry was a past Superintendent of the Little Rhody Division and past Vice President of the Northeastern Region. He was very active in Little Rhody until about five years ago when his health prohibited participation in our events. Henry was instrumental in encouraging the activities of many members of the current Board and in promoting participation the NMRA Achievement Program. We will miss his dedication and his sense of humor. Henry's wife Joanne, also a Little Rhody member, will be leaving the area to live with her daughter in California. Please keep Joanne and the rest of the family in your prayers.
- Little Rhody Division is currently planning for our Annual Meeting, normally held in June. We are considering an in-person gathering and would like your input. We don't want to throw a "party" and have no one show up. Members should have received a survey by e-mail last week. If you haven't responded, please do. We want to hear your voice.

APRIL EVENT

This event will take place virtually, using *Zoom*, on **Saturday, April 10th**. You should plan to download the *Zoom* application in advance so you are ready to go. Feel free to contact me with any questions. A link to the meeting, along with further instructions, will be e-mailed to you a few days before the event. We are looking forward to seeing you.

We will begin with virtual coffee and donuts accompanied by socializing at **9:30AM**, followed by information sharing and a short business meeting at about **10:00AM**. The first clinic will depart the station at **10:10AM**, or thereabouts. Mics will remain open for socializing between planned activities. We plan to wrap up by **Noon**.

Clinic #1: "Update on the Nickel Plate" by Tony Koester

Model Railroad Planning editor and *Model Railroader* Trains of Thought columnist, Tony Koester, will provide an update on his multi-deck HO tribute to the former Nickel Plate Road's St. Louis Division as it appeared and operated in 1954. The railroad, which is set in western Indiana and eastern Illinois, is fully operational using NCE DCC radio throttles, and the scenery is essentially complete.



Nickel Plate's first Berkshire, Alco-built no. 700, heads west between Frankfort and Linden, Indiana, with a fast freight destined for St. Louis in the autumn of 1954.



Almost new Alco RS-3s inbound from the dieselized Peoria Division ease into Frankfort, Indiana's eastbound yard as they pass the busy Swift soybean plant and WY Tower. The St. Louis Division won't be dieselized with Geeps and RS-3s until next summer.



One of the railroad's famous 1000-series wood cabooses proclaiming "Nickel Plate High Speed Service" carries the marker flags on a westbound freight passing over the Little Vermilion River viaduct while struggling up notorious Cayuga Hill on its climb out of the Wabash River Valley.

Clinic #2: Video - "Passenger Operations" by John Lowrance, MMR and Tom Crosthwait.

This clinic will be presented if time allows.



In this video, John Lawrence and Tom Crosthwait introduce us to passenger train operations. They begin with the premise that "confusion abounds" when it comes to passenger trains. They will talk about how passenger trains are composed, and the design and function of the various car types. They will also address different train types. So, if you are one of the confused, this is the video for you.

This clinic was originally shown at the 2017 National Convention in Orlando, FL. It runs about 66 mins.

FUTURE EVENTS

May

Saturday, May 1st via Zoom

Justin Maguire, MMR will describe three light modules that he designed and is building for the European Train Enthusiasts group. Also, Tom Emmett will show us the video "Iron & Steel: The Industry" by Doug Geiger, MMR.

June

Annual Meeting - Date and details to be determined.

** Contact David Kiley (kileys@juno.com) or Tom Emmett (teagmrr@runbox.com) if you have any suggestions for future events, or if you would like to provide a virtual tour of your model railroad.*

SOCIAL MEDIA

FACEBOOK

LITTLE RHODY DIVISION "PAGE"

Please take some time to visit the Little Rhody Division Facebook *Page* and newly created Little Rhody Division *Group*. Events will be posted to the FB Page. While there, "Like" the page so you will receive our posts.

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

LITTLE RHODY MEMBERS "GROUP"

It is my intention that this Group be used for discussions on model railroading topics between members of the Little Rhody Division and their acquaintances. As a member, you are able to share photos and other media. This is a private group and you must request to "Join" to be able to participate. Join us and start a conversation.

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

LITTLE RHODY T-TRAK "GROUP"

This group was started by David Dekonski in 2016 for communications between Little Rhody members interested in T-TRAK. This, too, is a private group you must request to "Join".

www.facebook.com/groups/1557631501142025/

The link to the Little Rhody Division "Page" will appear at the bottom of every newsletter. Both "Groups" may be accessed from the Page. Contact me, Linda Bergemann, if you have any questions.

YouTube

Little Rhody Division now has a YouTube channel. We have been recording our monthly events and intend to make them all available on our YouTube channel for later viewing. Added this month:

[Make it Look Real and On the Cheap by Tom Staton \(March 2021\)](#)

We will continue to post other recordings as they become available.

Like Facebook, the link to the Little Rhody Division YouTube "Channel" will appear at the bottom of every newsletter. Contact me, Linda Bergemann, if you have any questions

ZOOMING AROUND THE NER



NERx

April 10-11, 2021

2-6 & 7-11 PM EDT

Panel Discussions, Clinics, Layout Tours and Model Showcase. For more information, visit the website NERx.org.



"Old Colony Model Railroad Club and the Lehigh Valley Layout"

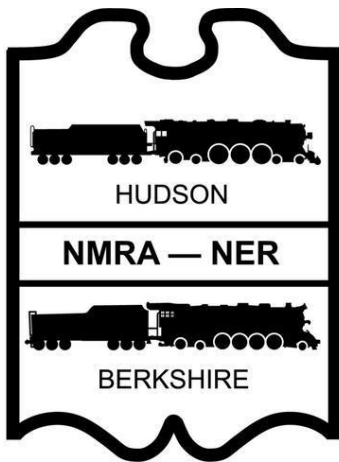
Presented by Jeff Padell

8 PM Friday, April 16, 2021

The Old Colony Model Railroad Club was founded in Raynham in 1997. Jeff will discuss the history of the club and its New Haven-themed HO-scale layout. The club's layout features a double-track mainline between New Haven and Providence. It also has a lengthy branch modeled after the Air Line in Connecticut and dedicated to John Allen.

Jeff based his home layout on Lehigh Valley, because his great grandfather and his grand uncle worked for the railroad in the early 1900s. Jeff will discuss his layout and modeling techniques.

The Zoom link will be sent to Little Rhody members as the date approaches.



"Thoughts on Rolling Stock and the Cars for the AP Program"

Presented by Ed O'Rourke from the Central Division

7 PM Friday, April 16, 2021

This virtual meeting will be on Google Meet. Contact [Linda Bergemann](#) for the link on the day of the event.

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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