



TIDEWATER DIVISION CALLBOARD

Volume 2017, Issue 2

<http://www.nmra-mer-tidewater.org/>



A model of the Edenton Cotton Mill and the surrounding neighborhood represents the industrial district of the historic town during the early to mid-20th century. A reprint of the story which ran in the *Virginian Pilot* is on page 5.

Photo by Jeff Hampton

Division Meetings

Saturday, Feb. 18, 2017, 10:00 AM

St. Matthew's Catholic Church, 3314 Sandra Lane, Va. Beach

Directions on back page

Contest: Passenger Car

Saturday, March 18, 2017, 10:00 AM

Eastern Shore RR Museum, Parksley, VA

Contest: On Line Structure

Who's-Who in the Tidewater Division

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2017 Division Meeting Schedule (tentative)

Date	Location	Contest
Feb 18	St. Matthew's Church, Va. Beach	Passenger Car
Mar 18	Eastern Shore RR Museum, Parksley, VA	On Line Structure
May 13	Denbigh Community Center, Newport News	Freight Car
June 17	St. Matthew's Church, Va. Beach	Photos
Aug 19	St. Matthew's Church, Va. Beach	Locomotive
Sep 16	St. Matthew's Church, Va. Beach	Off Line Structure
Nov 18	Va. Beach Central Library	Dioramas



The Iron Road

By Conrad Haas

Well, as this picture shows, this sure is more than one broken track. It was quite a mess. This 44 car derailment happened Saturday morning at around 7:00 am. The local residences said it lasted for 10 minutes before the cars stopped colliding. The clean-up started right away and trains were running by midnight Sunday. Though not travelling at full speed, they were back in operation again.

They had a full crew of about 30 big rigs with cranes and excavators to tackle the mess. It sort of reminded me our great volunteers helping with annual train show. With all the help, the job gets done in quick order. I am sure their clean-up crew had done this kind of job before just like our crew. I am so proud of our members for stepping up and volunteering. I mention the show again, because it is time to start planning again.

As I look at the picture above, I wonder how challenging it would be to model this as a diorama. Maybe that would be too much, but I am sure there are some of our division members that could do it. We are blessed with such good talent in Division 4. If you ever have a question about modelling, just ask one of our Master Modelers or other talented modelers. If you have a special skill, please share with us. If you have a suggestion for the Division, let us know.

Meeting News

It seems that our new version of the Auction was quite a success. More items were purchased as but it now than we anticipated, and the auction was completed in record time.

Our BOD election brought no surprises since the three candidates were unopposed. There are a few changes to the board anyhow. Tom Sullivan resigned from the board in December due to family issues. John Robey volunteered to take over as Treasurer. Bob Cook had asked to run for the BOD, so Conrad appointed him to finish out Tom's term on the board, per the Division By-Laws.

Next month we will be holding our Division Meeting at the Eastern Shore Railroad Museum. We are still working out plans for transportation and activities, but it will be worth the trip. We will have more information at the February meeting.

Check Out the March 2017 Model Railroader

One of the featured layouts in this month's MR is that of Tidewater Division member Dale Ridgeway. Dale wrote the article and took the photos of his HO scale layout, which depicts the Ridgley Division of the B&O.

Those of us who would like to see the layout in person will have a chance next month, as Dale will be welcoming visitors following the division meeting. He lives about an hour's drive North of Parksley, but having been there I can vouch that it is worth the trip.

Awards and Contests

Our annual Division Award winners for 2016 are: Modeler of the Year, Dale Ridgeway; Volunteer of the Year, Rick Lloyd; and Superintendent's Award, Ethan Vogel. Congratulations to them, as well as to Mark Nieting for winning the Favorite Train contest with his steel mill train.

The contest for the February meeting will be for favorite Passenger Car. All scales and prototypes are welcomed.

Cotton mill model replicates Edenton industrial district of bygone era

[By Jeff Hampton The Virginian-Pilot](#)

Reprinted with permission

- Feb 7, 2017

EDENTON, N.C.

A model train chugged around a table-size reconstruction of the Edenton Cotton Mill and its neighborhood of small tin-roof homes, a church, a peanut company and other industries.

The scene represents a district of one of the oldest towns in North Carolina in the early to mid-20th century. Most of the buildings, including the mill, still stand and are part of a trolley tour.

“What’s amazing to me is the amount of detail,” said Bob Hopkins, Historic Edenton site manager. “People come in here and immediately recognize what they saw on the trolley.”

The Carolina Piedmont Division of the National Model Railroad Association built the model last year as part of its effort to raise money to give train sets to underprivileged children. The man who won a raffle for the miniature neighborhood donated it to the Cotton Mill Museum, said Stephen Milley, a board member for the Carolina Piedmont Division.

The 5-by-7-foot setting is on display at Historic Edenton until April, when it will move permanently to the Cotton Mill Museum a few blocks away.

The model train group, including Edenton native Grif Bond, spent hours designing and building the scene over about 10 months last year, Milley said.

The train maneuvers through the neighborhood of the Edenton Cotton Mill, which was built of 1 million bricks in the late 1890s. It operated for nearly 100 years and employed 250 people at its peak. Most workers lived in small village houses built by the mill owners.

“They could walk to work, they could walk to church and they could walk to school,” said Bill Hicks, a board member of the Edenton Cotton Mill Museum of History.

An ad in the museum shows men earned up to \$2.50 a week, while women earned \$2 and boys over 16 could make \$1.90. The mill had a reputation for its high-quality yarn, said Beth Taylor, president of the museum board and a former mill employee.

The mill closed in the 1990s and later was converted into upscale condominiums. Most of the mill houses still line the shady streets as private homes.

Modelers based their work on historic maps and old photos found online. It includes the mill, of course, complete with tiny replicas of its dozens of arched windows. The train passenger depot, the peanut company building, a farm implement sales company, the church and a veneer business portray Edenton’s industrial heyday around 60 years ago.

“It is the most authentic model we have done,” Milley said.

Tidewater Division Depot



We have lots of items for sale to show your support for the Tidewater Division. We still have plenty of our HO scale NS (original) 50' boxcar kits, now at \$15.00 each. We also have patches and pins from previous conventions, and will soon have ball caps with our logo. You can also order other apparel with our logo embroidered on.

To place an order or ask about prices, contact John Fallon at zzoxdoc@yahoo.com.

JOINING THE NMRA'S TIDEWATER DIVISION

The Tidewater Division of the NMRA encompasses the South-Eastern Maryland, Eastern Virginia and North-Eastern North Carolina. The area includes Somerset, Wicomico and Worcester Counties in Maryland; in Virginia, the Cities of Chesapeake, Franklin, Hampton, Newport News, Norfolk, Portsmouth, Suffolk, Virginia Beach, and Williamsburg, plus Accomack County, Gloucester County, James City County, Isle of Wight County, Northampton County, Mathews County, Southampton County, Surry County, and York County; and in North Carolina, Camden County, Currituck County, Chowan County, Gates County, Pasquotank County, and Perquimans County. To be a member of the Tidewater Division, you must be a member of the National Model Railroad Association (NMRA) and reside in the area covered by the Tidewater Division.

For a limited time, we are offering a FREE six month Rail Pass NMRA membership. This offer is only available to new members, it includes the NMRA's monthly magazine, *Scale Rails*. Contact John Fallon at (757) 636-3023, or e-mail zzoxdoc@yahoo.com.

CALLBOARD SUBSCRIPTIONS

The Callboard is available for free via e-mail or at the Tidewater Division web-site, <http://www.nmra-mer-tidewater.org/>. Printed copies in b/w are available on request, contact John Fallon (see above) to get on the mailing list.

HOBBY SHOP NEWS

The Tidewater Division extends our thanks to the owners and employees of our local Hobby shops. They are available all year to provide materials, tools, and advice we need to enjoy this hobby. We encourage you to visit them and see what they have to offer.



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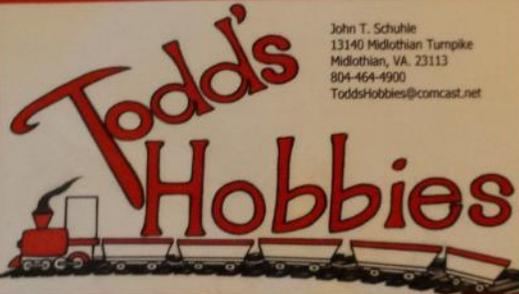
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Model Railroading is Fun.

Mailing Address Goes Here.

Timetable 2017

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| Feb 15 | BOD Meeting at Fairfield Train Junction |
| Feb 18 | Division Meeting at St. Matthew's |
| Mar. 4,5 | Greenberg Train Show at Hampton Convention Center |
| Mar 15 | BOD Meeting at Fairfield Train Junction |
| Mar 18 | Division Meeting at Eastern Shore RR Museum |

Directions to St. Matthew's Catholic Church—From I-64, exit at Indian River Road West. Continue down Indian River Rd, crossing Military Highway. Sandra Lane is a right turn just before the bowling alley. Turn right and it leads directly into the parking lot for St. Matthew's.