

## Tidewater Division

# CALLBOARD

Volume 2021, Issue 2

NMRA MEMBER

April 2021

### “Tracks Ahead”

**Fred Humphrey, Superintendent**

Welcome back! It has been a long time since we have had a Tidewater Division meeting to socialize and see good friends again. With the Governor reducing the in-group restrictions, it permits us to again have a meeting in small groups of 100 or less. Therefore, the Tidewater Division will hold a meeting on 22 May 2021 at the Military Aviation Museum in Pungo, VA.

The event schedule is:

- 8 AM - Members desiring to sell items in the White Elephant Sale begin table setup.
- 9 AM - Tidewater Division meeting commences.
- 10:30 AM - White Elephant Sale begins (Could start earlier if I do not get long winded)
- 12:30 PM – White Elephant Sale Closes
- 1 PM – All White Elephant Sale items MUST be removed, and the building area cleared.

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### BILL OF LADING – APR 2021

- 2** Master Modeler Updates
- 3** Division/TMRC Member is Remembered
- 4** Railway News of Yesteryear
- 5** Canadian Pacific To Acquire KCS
- 6** Annual Business Mtg – Floor Plan for 22 May
- 8** Tidewater Division BoD Meeting Minutes

### This Month in Rail History

April 9, 1851: 2nd B&O RR Station opens at New Jersey Ave & C St NW, across from the present-day Teamsters Headquarters.

April 13, 1846: Pennsylvania Railroad chartered.

April 18, 1934: Burlington Zephyr dedicated.

Apr 22, 1833: Richard Trevithick, inventor of the steam locomotive, dies at age 62.

Apr 22, 1884: Orange Jull receives patent for the first practical rotary snowplow. Jull's design mounted a large revolving fan on a railroad car to cut through snowdrifts and throw snow to one side while being pushed by locomotives.

Apr 22, 1942: Baldwin delivers prototype T-1 4-4-4-4 duplex locomotives to the Pennsylvania Railroad.

Apr 23, 1827: First board of directors for the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad elected. (Happy B&O anniversary to Pat Mahoney)

April 23, 1866: Westinghouse patents first air brake.

April 29, 1851 First electric railroad car in history runs from Washington to Bladensburg round-trip-decades ahead of its time.

April 29, 1873: Eli H. Janney patents knuckle coupler.

April 30, 1900: Luther “Casey” Jones rides into eternity.

“The Callboard” is the newsletter of the Tidewater Division of the Mid-Eastern Region of the NMRA and any opinions found herein are those of the authors thereof and of the Editors and do not necessarily reflect any policies of this organization. The Tidewater Division, as a non-profit organization, does not endorse any position. Your comments are welcome! Please direct all questions or concerns to: [sorcerer54@cox.net](mailto:sorcerer54@cox.net)

# Master Model Railroader Update

## Tidewater Division Members

by Norm Garner

Most division members are aware of who within Tidewater holds the prestigious "MMR" rating. Currently John Spanagel, John Johnson, Chuck Davis, Norm Garner and Dale Ridgeway carry the coveted title of MMR. The "Callboard" would like to acknowledge the following member(s) for their most recent MMR Achievements:

Qualifications for this ranking include choosing seven of the following eleven categories and successfully completing all the requirements. They are: Author, Official, Volunteer, Master Builder-Scenery, Master Builder-Cars, Master Builder-Motive Power, Master Builder-Structures, Master Builder-Prototype Models, Model Railroad Engineer-Civil, Model Railroad Engineer-Electrical and Chief Dispatcher. For more details contact the Achievement Program chairman, Norm Garner at: [nwgrail2@aol.com](mailto:nwgrail2@aol.com)

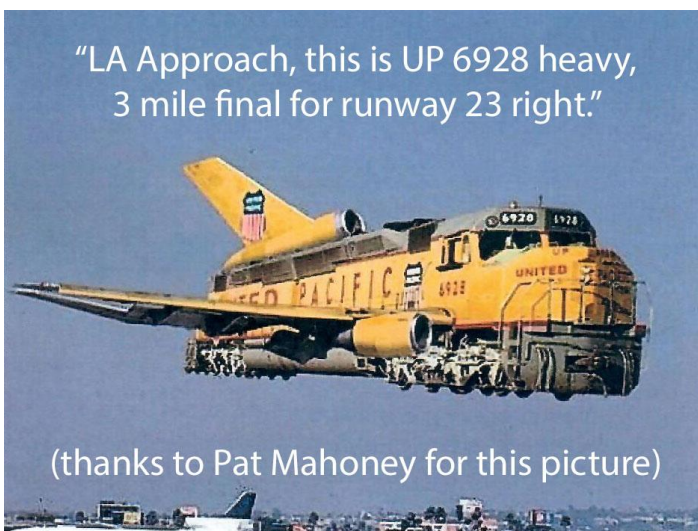
## NMRA Benefits Information

As an NMRA member, are you aware of discounts on purchased merchandise? Yes, the NMRA partners with multiple manufacturers giving the membership varying discounts when you purchase an item.

For more details, click on [NMRA Partners](#)

## Callboard Subscribers

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 the Callboard editor at [sorcerer54@cox.net](mailto:sorcerer54@cox.net) for details.



## Tidewater Division

### Board of Directors

Superintendent: Fred Humphrey  
([fredrickhumphrey@outlook.com](mailto:fredrickhumphrey@outlook.com))

Asst Superintendent: John Fallon  
([zzoxdoc@yahoo.com](mailto:zzoxdoc@yahoo.com))

Paymaster: John Robey  
([jrobey2019@gmail.com](mailto:jrobey2019@gmail.com))

Timekeeper: Roger Bir  
([sorcerer54@cox.net](mailto:sorcerer54@cox.net))

Member at Large: John Cryderman  
([hjcryderman@cox.net](mailto:hjcryderman@cox.net))

Member at Large: Jim Keiper  
([eljek8952@gmail.com](mailto:eljek8952@gmail.com))

Member at Large: Dale Ridgeway  
([ridgerail@aol.com](mailto:ridgerail@aol.com))

Achievement Program: Norm Garner  
([nwgrail2@aol.com](mailto:nwgrail2@aol.com))

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NOTES: a. Admission to Military Aviation Museum is free to Tidewater Division Members ONLY

- b. During the meeting Military Aviation Museum "WING" will be distributed to permit access to the museum after the meeting.
- c. The White Elephant Sale is open to anyone at the Military Aviation Museum.
- d. One BOD member will station at the top of the stairs to assist any Military Aviation Museum quest to travel through the meeting area in order to view museum items on the left side of the second floor.
- e. A 50/50 raffle drawing will be held and open to all present in the Military Aviation Museum.

Also within this issue of *The Callboard* is a formal request from the Lee Hall Depot. Those members interested in assisting, please review the article on page 7.

Additionally, the Tidewater Division is looking to again have a train show in the Hampton Roads area sometime in 2021 and possibly another one in late 2021 outside of the area. This train show would remain within the Tidewater Division, but somewhere in the northern part. In addition to the train show, the Division will again look to restart Project Endeavor. To refresh your memory, Project Endeavor was created by the Tidewater Division to bring all scale model railroader together...under one roof, if interest is still there. I'm encouraged to see the light at the end of the tunnel and we're on the road back to normal. More information will be forthcoming as we're able to have meeting to coordinate our efforts for the future.

Best regards,

**Fred**

## *Dennis Duane Millard*

**August 10, 1949 - April 6, 2021**

Dennis Duane Millard passed away April 6th, 2021 in Virginia Beach, VA. Dennis was born in Tyler, Minnesota to Archie and Evelyn Claeys Millard He was a graduate of Fergus Falls High School, in west central Minnesota.

Upon graduation from high school, Dennis enlisted in the US Air Force with his older brother Steven, where they went through basic training together. Dennis served in various locations in the CONUS. Following his Honorable discharge from the Air Force, Dennis took a brief respite before enlisting for multiple tours in the US Navy. His specialty was photography, both still and aerial recon.

He served on aircraft carriers and when not on duty he enjoyed flying kites on the beach, and when visiting his family in Minnesota. His interests also included maintaining vintage military aircraft, and miniature HO scale model trains. Upon exiting the US Navy, he remained in the Virginia Beach area. Dennis is preceded in death by his parents, Archie, and Evelyn Millard, and one nephew, Adam Millard. He is survived by his siblings, brothers Steven Millard (wife Diane) of Fergus Falls, Minnesota, Timothy Millard (wife Beth) of Hot Springs, South Dakota, William Millard (wife Julie) of Fergus Falls, Patrick Millard (wife Julie) of Fergus Falls, one sister, Kathleen of Green Valley, AZ, brothers James Millard (wife Mary) of Brainerd, MN, and Kevin Millard of Tucson, AZ. He is also survived by numerous nieces and nephews.

Dennis is being cared for by the Altmeyer Funeral Home-Southside Chapel in Virginia Beach. Although no visitation is planned, he will be escorted home to Minnesota by family – where he will be interred. Interment will be private, with military honors – at a time to be established. Memorials, photos, and condolences may be left at the funeral home's website.

(Dennis was a longtime presence at the TMRC. His Santa Fe cattle yard was a prominent fixture of the club's layout).

## Railroad News of "Yesteryear"

### Tramps Lock 4 Boys in Car

Oelwein Register, Oelwein IA, 5 March 1891

While four little boys of 4 and 6 years were walking down the railroad tracks on their way to school in Burlington, Iowa, five tramps met them and demanded the food in their dinner pails. On being refused the little fellows were bound and gagged and locked in a box car of a train about to start westward. They were carried several hundred miles before anybody's attention was called to their presence. When rescued they were nearly famished and nearly frozen

### "They Wanted to Be Put Off"

Star Clipper, Traer IA, 6 Aug 1897

They are telling a joke on conductor Wilcox of the Union Pacific. He was working his train Monday afternoon, when he came to two men sitting together and asked them for tickets.

"We ain't got no tickets," said one of the men surly. "Then you have to pay your fare," replied Mr. Wilcox. "We ain't got no money," answered the second man. "Then I'll have to put you off," replied the conductor, as he reached for the bell rope. "Go on, and put us off, we want you to put us off, and you can't do it any too quick," said one of the men. The eager way in which the man said this attracted the attention of the conductor and glancing down he saw that they were handcuffed together. They were two car thieves that a special agent of the Union Pacific was taking to Omaha.

### Strange, But True "Railroad" Facts

1. Pennsylvania has a town named "Railroad," but not an inch of track has ever run in or out of the town.
2. A lonely telegrapher originally named the site of present-day Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, "Enola." (spell it backwards).
3. The Lancaster & Reading Narrow Gauge railroad never ran anywhere near Reading and never had narrow-gauge track.
4. After a disastrous train wreck on December 23, 1903, the dying conductor called to an injured baggageman to flag train #49, which would soon be bearing down on them. Not finding a lantern, he struck three matches, one at a time, and managed to warn the train, which stopped not three feet from the rear end of the wreck.
5. One Pullman port stripped a berth and found a diamond ring worth \$120,000.

### Hogs Stolen From Local Train

Webster City Journal, Webster IA,  
24 Apr 1924

A preliminary hearing for Charles Butler, charged with receiving stolen property was held in Justice C. A. Biermatzki's court this afternoon. It charged that Butler received four hogs, three Chester Whites and one red hog, which had been removed from a Northwestern stock train early last Monday morning. The value of the hogs is estimated at \$75.

Numerous witnesses were called to the stand, including members of the crew in charge of the train at the time the car was broken into and the hogs removed, special agents of the railroad company, who discovered the hogs in question on Butler's farm and the alleged owners of the stock.

The first witness called was M. K. Reibhoff, of Eagle Grove, engineer of the stock train. Mr. Reibhoff told of how the train had been brought to a halt about a mile and a quarter out of Woolstock by a burning flare placed near the middle of the tracks. He also said that after instructing the head brakeman to extinguish the flare the train proceed to Jewell.

The second witness was Harry Ferguson, head brakeman on the stock train. He told of discovering the car with a door partly opened while inspecting the train at Jewell later in the morning.

Charles Anderson and M. L. Bull, both special agents of the Northwestern, related the story of their visits to the Butler farm and the locating of the hogs.

## Railroad Lingo

**ARMSTRONG**—Old-style equipment operated by muscular effort, such as handbrakes, some turntables, engines without automatic stokers, etc.

**BIG FOUR**—The four operating Brotherhoods: Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen, Order of Railway Conductors, Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen, and Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers

**CAR KNOCKER**—Car inspector or car repairer—from the early custom of tapping the wheels to detect flaws. Also called *car whacker*; and *car toad* (because he squats while inspecting), *car tink*, and *car tonk*

**DIAMOND**—Railroad crossover. *Black diamonds* is coal

**DIAMOND CRACKER or DIAMOND PUSHER**—Locomotive fireman

## Clinicians Needed

**October 2021**

To the Tidewater Division,

**We** have got the place, the date, and the logo, but we need you and your Division. The 2021 Local Convention Committee is charging forward with planning of the Mount Clare Junction model railroader convention, to be held 21 through 24 October 2021. Hosting this event will be at the Delta Hotels Baltimore Hunt Valley in scenic Hunt Valley, Maryland.

We are looking for clinicians, with a preference towards attendee participation hands-on projects, and those willing to offer "on the way home" layout tours. In the interest of providing ease of access and greater likelihood of visitors, we encourage those within a reasonable distance of the major interstates (I95, I70, I83) participate in the layout tour.

An online form has been created to indicate your interest in participating, and it's easy to use; just click on the word "JotForm" to be taken there. Should you prefer a more traditional form, we can provide a fillable PDF upon email request.

Regards,

Rick Uskert  
2021 Local Convention Committee Chair  
2021 Mid-Eastern Region Convention  
2021lcc.chair@chesdiv-nmra.org

## CP To Acquire KCS In Merger

by Mike Behn

The Canadian Pacific Railway (CP) will acquire Kansas City Southern (KCS) in a cash and stock transaction worth US \$29 billion, the two Class 1 railroads announced early Sunday, March 21. The combined rails will be name Canadian Pacific Kansas City (CPKC)

The CP and KCS described the US\$29 billion as "enterprise value" that includes the assumption of \$3.8 billion of outstanding KCS debt. The transaction, which has the unanimous support of both boards of directors, values KCS at \$275 per share, representing a 23% premium, based on the CP and KCS closing prices on March 19, 2021 (and \$270 per share, representing a 26% premium, based on the respective CP and KCS 30-day volume weighted average prices (VWAP).

The two companies informally notified the U.S. Surface Transportation Board (STB) about the deal on Saturday evening, March 20. The STB will need to approve the transaction. If approved, the merger will be the first Class I transaction of its type since the late 1990s, when Norfolk Southern and CSX acquired percentages of Conrail. The CP will establish an independent voting trust to acquire the KCS shares.

Upon shareholder approval of the transaction, and satisfaction of customary closing conditions, CP will acquire KCS shares and place them into the voting trust. This step is currently expected to be completed in the second half of 2021. Following the closing into a voting trust, common shareholders of KCS will receive 0.489 of a CP share and \$90 in cash for each KCS common share held. KCS common shareholders are expected to own 25% of CP's outstanding common shares, "providing the ability to participate in the upside of both companies' growth opportunities. Following final STB approval, KCS shareholders will additionally participate in the realization of synergies resulting from the combination."



**CANADIAN  
PACIFIC  
RAILWAY**

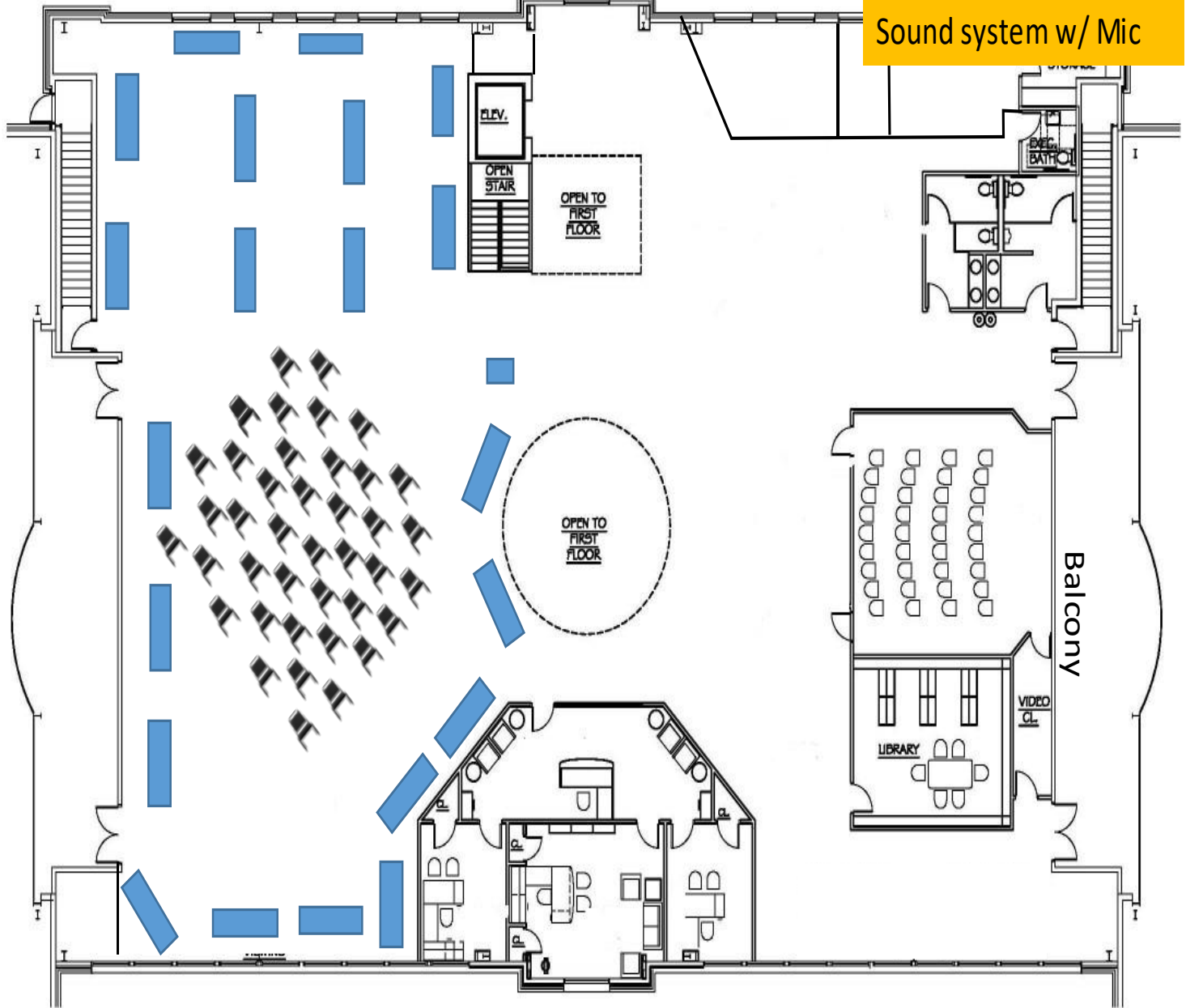


TMRR Meeting – 22 May 2021

30-50 People

MILITARY AVIATION MUSEUM  
SECOND FLOOR, SKETCH 'D'  
AUGUST 1, 2005

- 21 Rectangle Tables
- 30-50 chairs
- Podium
- Sound system w/ Mic



**Here is the proposed seating arrangement for the May 22, 2021 Annual Tidewater Division Business Meeting and White Elephant Sale. The 2021 White Elephant Table slips are available on the division web page. A special Tidewater Division “thank you” to Steve Prescott for his efforts in securing the venue. We look forward to seeing all of you on the 22<sup>nd</sup>.**

## Sierra Northern to Build and Test Hydrogen Switcher

Funding will be used to retire a Tier 0 diesel locomotive and replace it with a zero-emission switching locomotive using advanced hydrogen technology. Velocity Strategies Sierra and GTI have been awarded nearly \$4 million by the California Energy Commission (CEC) to build and test a hydrogen fuel-cell switching locomotive. The locomotive will demonstrate the potential of hydrogen fuel-cell technology to reduce transportation air pollutants and greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions.

The funds will be used to retire a Tier 0 diesel locomotive and replace it with a zero-emission switching locomotive using advanced hydrogen technology. The project involves the integration of advanced hydrogen fuel cell, hydrogen storage, advanced battery, and systems control technologies to provide an alternative to diesel-powered locomotives, Sierra Northern officials said in a press release.

Short-line and switching locomotives account for a significant portion of freight in California and operate on the first and last miles of the national freight network. As a result, short-line operations make an excellent testbed for the demonstration of zero-emission technologies, they said. "We believe this project will help lead the switching locomotive industry to an emissions-free pathway in all ports in the state of California," said Kennan Beard III, president of Sierra Northern Railway.

Sierra Northern Railway is the project's technical lead and partnered with GTI as the formal applicant to the CEC. Other technical partners include Railpower Tech LLC, Ballard Power Systems, Optifuel Systems LLC, UC Davis Institute of Transportation Studies, Valley Vision, Velocity Strategies, Southern California Gas Co. and the Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District. Sierra Northern Railway operates 75 miles of track in Northern California and interchanges with BNSF



## Lee Hall Depot Extends Request Seeking Assistance with A Diorama

As part of the Lee Hall Depot's interpretation, the room above the agent's bay will highlight the village of Lee Hall that developed as a result of train service to this portion of the county. This second-floor space with six windows has the same orientation it did a century ago and offers an exceptional opportunity to compare/contrast then and now. The collection includes a sketch of the village and photos of significant structures from that time. The exhibit concept features a stationary HO diorama of the village, c. 1920.

The layout would be on a raised bead board covered base; the table portion would be approximately 4'-5' x 8' and include a dust cover. The city would build the case, which will have 360-degree access. However, the project needs a person/s skilled in model building to create replicas of structures for which we have images: the station, general store and about two dozen houses. It should include tracks, a period C&O train, cars, wagons, and figures (to include RR employees, passengers, Ft. Eustis soldiers and area civilians such as farmers, school children, etc). Might this be something your club would possibly undertake?

To support the diorama, the city would produce a numbered key, adjoining didactics, and photo murals to offer historical perspective. Another element in the room, already in progress, is a partial recreation of the local mercantile where proprietor H.M. Clements will share his story and the impact train service had on his livelihood. Personal stories is a running theme to be incorporated throughout the station. This will be the first of nearly two dozen to be portrayed.

The diorama is a time intensive project and involves some cost. I hope you will be able to offer direction for its support and greatly appreciate your consideration of my request.

Mary Kayaselcuk  
Historic Site Coordinator  
Lee Hall Depot

(Editor's Note: currently plans are being created to assist the Lee Hall Depot using the expertise available within the Tidewater Division to help create their diorama. If you are so inclined in assisting the Division with this endeavor, please contact Roger Bir at [sorcerer54@cox.net](mailto:sorcerer54@cox.net) for additional details.)



**Tidewater Division**  
**National Model Railroad Association/Mid-eastern Region**  
*“Advancing the worldwide scale model railroad community through education and standards as well as advocacy and fellowship.”*

**Board of Directors (BOD) Meeting and Conference Call Agenda for**  
**6:30PM, 7 April 2021**

1. **Call to Order.** 6:41pm
2. **Announcements.**
  - Superintendent initiated a teleconference call with Board members John Cryderman and Dale Ridgeway.
3. **Reports.**
  - Membership: the committee chairman reports the current membership at 119 members.
  - Finance: the division paymaster gave the financial report, and its findings were accepted by the Board.
4. **Division Business.**
  - . Tidewater Divisional meeting: The Board has decided to host the annual business meeting at the Military Aviation Museum, Pungo VA. Date of the event is 15 May 2021. Set up time (for those selling) was established as 8am. The business meeting would begin at 9am. Once the meeting was concluded, then the White Elephant sale would begin (approx. 10:30am). Tentative time to end the sale was established at 12:30pm with all vendors/sellers clear of the facility by 1pm. Superintendent topics: will center around the recent vote to add/change a couple of division by-laws with the Superintendent giving an explanation regarding the proposed changes. It was also determined to acknowledge those members who have achieved certain honors (MMR, etc.) since the last business meeting (Jan 2020). Because the start time is established at 9am, those members attending the division meeting will not be required to pay an admittance fee to the museum.
  - a. White Elephant Sale: set up time will be 8am to 9am. Sale slips are now available on the division web site. It was decided the White Elephant Sale would be open to the public (those visiting the Aviation Museum).
  - b. Meeting/White Elephant COVID-19 restrictions: The Military Aviation Museum will assume control of all COVID-19 compliance. Per the direction from Richmond, members will still need to wear a mask and practice “social distancing.”
  - c. Posting of the Upcoming Meeting: this will be handled via the division(s) web page, the newsletter and the Facebook page.

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1. **New Business.**

a. The division received a request from the Lee Hall Depot Historic Site Coordinator, Mary Kayaselcuk. The Depot has requested assistance from the Tidewater Division in building a circa 1920's diorama with the Lee Hall Depot as a main centerpiece. The HO scale project would include the depot, several buildings and homes, a period C&O locomotive (static), wagons, figures (railroad employees, military personnel, passengers, etc.) and associated support items (wagons, cars) Superintendent Fred Humphrey has appointed Roger Bir to serve as liaison for this project.

2. **Next BOD Meeting.** A finalization meeting regarding the annual business meeting will be conducted at Fred Humphrey's home on 6 May 2021. The next division business meeting is scheduled for 7 July 2021 and will be hosted by the division paymaster, John Robey.

3. **Adjoin Meeting.** 8:04pm

## **Modern Train Sales “Chug Along” by Christopher F. Schuetze The New York Times**

BERLIN — Last spring, the managers at Märklin, the 162-year-old maker of model trains in Germany, were surprised by something unexpected in the sales reports. “We started to notice a serious uptick in orders,” said Florian Sieber, a director at Märklin. The jump continued into summer — a further surprise, he said, because that is “when people don’t usually buy indoor train sets.” But buy they did. In November, Märklin’s monthly orders were up 70% over the previous year. The company’s video introducing its new trains and accessories, posted in January, has been viewed more than 165,000 times. Along with baking and jigsaw puzzles earlier in the pandemic, model trains are among the passions being rediscovered while people are cooped up indoors. Several companies that make trains are reporting jumps in sales. For many people, the chance to create a separate, better world in the living room — with stunning mountains, tiny chugging locomotives and communities of inch-high people where no one needs a mask — is hard to resist. “Outside, there is total chaos, but inside, around my little train set, it is quiet, it is picturesque,” said Magnus Hellstrom, 48, a high school teacher in Sweden who has indulged in his hobby while working from home during lockdowns. “It’s a little piece of a perfect world,” he said.

Hellstrom is one of many Märklin enthusiasts. The company, which filed for bankruptcy protection over a decade ago, is now for the first time in years hiring new apprentices to learn the precise work of making super detailed tiny trains. “We’re booming so much, it’s hard to keep up,” said Maria Huta, 64, who has assembled trains for 38 years at the company’s main facility in Göppingen, a town 25 miles southeast of Stuttgart, where the company was founded.

The factory building is more than a century old, and touring the facility is a trip back in time: a factory floor with skilled manual laborers toiling over workbenches. Huta and her colleagues often use a microscope to attach tiny details such as bells or handrails. The company employs about 1,170 full-time employees at its two locations. (The other location is in Gyor, Hungary.)

The Märklin trains come in three scales, with H0-gauge models the most popular. A high-end Gauge 1 locomotive, made up of several thousand individual parts, can cost up to \$4,200 new (and much more if the train becomes a collectors’ item), although lower-cost locomotives, composed of about 300 parts, sell for about one-tenth of the price. Märklin also makes LGB trains, which are larger and designed to be set up outdoors.

The trains can be controlled by computer console or by a phone app, with different trains on the same track going different speeds or traveling different circuits. Märklin even added the option of controlling the trains via train engineer simulator software, allowing users to control their model train as if they were sitting in the engineer’s chair.

“It is a traditional toy that through digital functions, like sound and light, has become more and more like a real train,” said Uwe Müller, who was a product manager at Märklin for 15 years and now runs the Märklineum, the company’s museum.