



## Tidewater Division

# CALLBOARD

Volume 2018, Issue 10

NMRA MEMBER

October, 2018

### **“From the Caboose”**

**Pat Mahoney, Superintendent**

October 13-14 is the weekend for our 29<sup>th</sup> Annual Train Show and Sale. Division members may take this opportunity to convert excess inventory into cash using our White Elephant Table. The rules and sales tags are available at the Division website. Setting up for our show and assisting the vendors to set up and take down is a manpower intensive endeavor, so all members are encouraged to help however they can that weekend.

November is National Model Railroad Month. We have been invited again by the Virginia Beach Central Library to exhibit various aspects of our hobby. All display cases have been reserved for us for the entire month. Displays can be set up starting on November 1<sup>st</sup> and must be removed on November 30<sup>th</sup>. The display cases are locked and the key is available at the information desk. If you intend to exhibit something, let me know so I can put your name on the

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### **29<sup>th</sup> Tidewater Division Train Show**

**13-14 October 2018**

**10am to 4pm Both Days**

**Virginia Beach Convention Center**

**Virginia Beach, VA**

### **This Month in Rail History**

Oct 3, 1922: Canada creates Canadian National Railway and nationalized system.

Oct 9, 1863: U.S. Congress sets transcontinental RR gauge at 4' 8-1/2".

October 15, 1906: Potomac Yard opens, removing most unsightly yard switching from along Virginia Ave. & the Mall, per McMillan Commission & the "City Beautiful" movement. Shepherd's Landing-Alexandria freight car ferry operation ends with Potomac Yard opening.

Oct 16, 1964: Norfolk & Western Railway merges with Nickel Plate Road and leased Wabash Railroad.

Oct 17, 1968: the first legal mixed drink is purchased in Virginia post-Prohibition, a \$1.14 scotch and soda served to a patron sitting, not standing, in the club car of a Chesapeake & Ohio railway Co. train parked in Newport News.

Oct 27, 1904: first New York City subway opens.

### **BILL OF LADING – OCT 2018**

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“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)

## Norfolk Southern Derails On Top Of Light Rail

### No Injuries Reported

Norfolk Southern officials confirm that a 57-car, 7,687-foot-long intermodal train bound to Chicago from northern New Jersey derailed on top of Port Authority of Allegheny County tracks at 1:13 p.m. Sunday, severing the light rail's main line near Station Square. Officials say no one was injured.

NS representative Jonathan Glass said the train 4,838-ton train was hauling mostly "consumer goods that included housewares, food products, beverages, and other common household products found in retail shopping stores." Glass says contractors are on site and will spend the next 24 to 72 hours re-railing the train and removing derailed cars with heavy cranes.

Station Square is the shopping and event complex developed in and around the former Pittsburgh & Lake Erie station opposite downtown Pittsburgh on the Monongahela River. Certain websites report that the event center sees millions of visitors annually. The NS train dropped feet from the complex's transit stop. The crash scene is also only a few hundred feet away from the famed Monongahela Incline funicular railway. CSX Transportation operates former P&LE and Baltimore & Ohio tracks nearest the river. NS operates former Pennsylvania Railroad tracks just up the hill.

Only after NS removes its equipment can Port Authority officials assess damage to the tracks where all northbound transit trains converge before heading into downtown Pittsburgh. The Post-Gazette cites city of Pittsburgh Deputy Fire Chief Michael Mullen saying he was thankful there were no "fracking oil cars" involved in the derailment. Glass says NS apologizes to Pittsburgh residents for any inconvenience the derailment is causing.



## Railroad Fever "The Perfect Gentlemen"

by Fred Humphrey

The passenger car was very crowded. Sitting next to the window was a man with his head buried in his hands, crying his eyes out. The man sitting next to him tried to console him. "Are you sick, can get anything for you?"

"No, it's nothing like that," the man answered. "I just hate to see old ladies standing."



## **"Steam Locomotives"**

**by A.C. Kalmbach**

**(thanks to Pat Mahoney for the article)**

**B**ECAUSE I was brought up in a railroad neighborhood and had to wash the Milwaukee Road's soft-coal smoke out of my hair every Saturday night, I can remember many an apocryphal railroad yarn which can't be put in print because some reader might step up and prove it wasn't true. But one of my fondest memories is the remarkable story of the stolen locomotive, which sticks in my mind so strongly from 30 or more years ago that it must be true.

The story starts with a Chicago & North Western Mike, sitting on the ready track at Butler (Milwaukee) roundhouse, with steam up. A trespasser, who must have been an ex-railroad man to know the rules so well, climbed up the gangway, hung white flags in the sockets, lit the white classification signals, and pulled out of the yard, bound west on the main line. He kept carefully in the clear of scheduled trains, and either had enough luck not to meet any opposing extras, or had studied the train sheet and knew there were no extras in his way.

At any rate, operators along the way dutifully OS'd the light engine running extra, "North Lake, Extra 2307 West at 8:15," and so on. Incredible as it seems now, the lone rider had run his 200-ton steed nearly across the state of Wisconsin, some 150 miles, before some dispatcher checked back in the orders issued the preceding trick and found that no "Extra 2307 West" had been ordered out on the road.

So at the next station the extracurricular engineman was faced with a red order board, and knowing the ropes as he did, he stopped — to be met by a sheriff at the bottom of the gangway. He gave up, was brought back to Milwaukee and arraigned on a charge of grand larceny, certainly a fitting denouement for such an escapade.

But when the case came up in court, the judge threw it out. "No larceny," said his honor. "The locomotive was never removed from North Western property." — A. C. Kalmbach.



**TODAY**  
**PUT YOUR**  
**MONEY IN**  
**WAR STAMPS**

Because Uncle Sam needs the metal for war, American Flyer Trains cannot be built now. So why not do this? Tell Dad to give you War Stamps this Christmas. Put them in a special envelope and mark it  
"FOR MY AMERICAN FLYER TRAIN."

## **Division Elections**

**M**ark your calendars as the annual Division Meeting and Auction is less than four months away. With the annual meeting, also comes elections for your Board of Directors.

In 2019, three positions will be open for consideration. If you are so inclined, contact the Board Superintendent (Pat Mahoney) to express your interest in serving the Division, for further details.

## **On the Advertised**

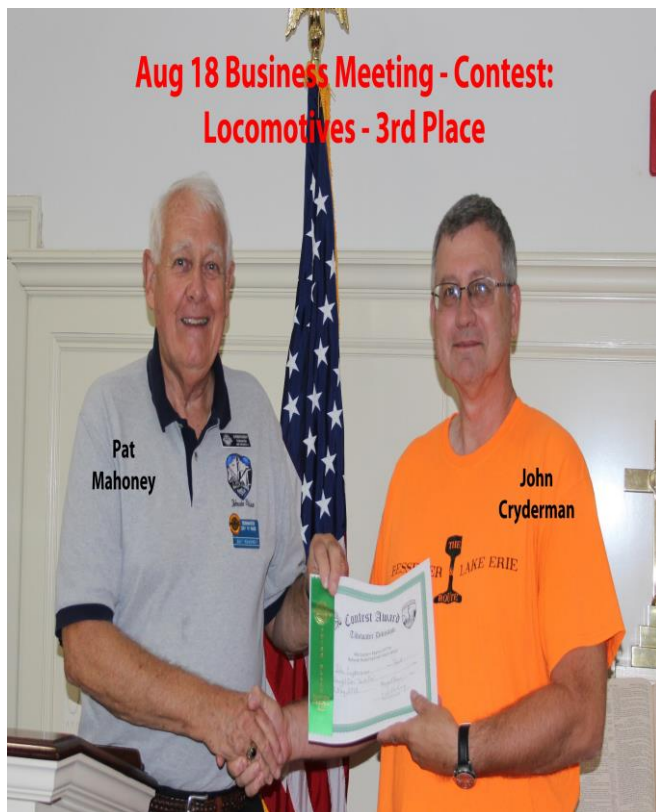
### **Division Meeting Schedule for 2018**

November 17 – Virginia Beach (Main) Library  
4100 Virginia Beach Blvd - Contest: Dioramas



## Division Contest Winners August & September

Aug 18 Business Meeting - Contest:  
Locomotives - 3rd Place



August 18 Business Mtg Contest:  
Locomotives - 2nd Place



August 18 Business Mtg Contest:  
Locomotives - 1st Place



September Business Mtg Contest:  
Off Line Structure - 1st Place



***From "The Timekeeper"***  
***Board of Director - Business Meeting Minutes***  
***5 September 2018***

Meeting was held at the Tidewater Modular Railroad Club (TMRC) from 7:32pm to 7:30pm.

Attending: Pat Mahoney, John Fallon, Bob Cook, Fred Humphrey, John Cryderman and Roger Bir.

Membership: 161 with two new members. Membership is reminded that NMRA membership must be current to sell items at the white elephant table.

**Paymaster Report:**

- Checking        8,130.70
- Savings        8,890.09
- Cash            175.00
- Total            17,195.79
- Show expenses still to be paid: Sunday hall rental, Tables and chairs, and Tax License.
- Paying \$25/month for the web site.

**Business:**

- We will need volunteers for table set up and break down on Friday starting a 0900 and Sunday after show end. Vendors will be allowed in the hall after 1200 on Friday and will need assistance in unloading.
- VA Beach Library auditorium is available for the meeting on November 10<sup>th</sup> from 1000 to 1200 for \$80. The Superintendent intends to resolve the meeting location for November by the September Division meeting. Jennifer McDade, archivist for Norfolk Southern has been invited to speak. Other rec centers in Virginia Beach charge \$40/hour.
- Bill Shaffer, Tennessee Valley Railroad Museum is not available for the September meeting.
- The contest for the September meeting is Off Line Structures.
- Reminders: Greenberg Show at the Va Beach Convention Center on 29-30 December; NMRA Web Site lists vendors that offer discounts, and the MER Convention will be held on 3-7 October in Rockville, MD.
- Richard Moody of the Railroad Museum of Virginia sent a letter thanking the Division for meeting at their site. Staff of the museum came to the Tidewater Modular Railroad Club in Fairfield Shopping Center on both Wednesday and Saturday to see the layout so they can better refer visitors to the site.
- John Robey obtained a letter of resignation from our previous attorney and received confirmation from the state that our new attorney is our agent of record.
- John Fallon recommended a payment of \$50 to Trinity UMC for hosting our meeting in August. The Board approved unanimously.
- Meeting was adjourned at 7:30pm.



# Society Holiday Party



*When*

December 1, 2018 — 7:00 to 10:00 p.m.

*Where*

B&ORRHS World Headquarters  
5745 Bartholow Road, Eldersburg, MD 21784

*Who*

All Society members and one guest each.  
Limited to 60 tickets. \$15.00 per person.

*What*

**Food:** Light fare consisting of crab dip, mini meatballs, cheese platters, antipasto, brownies, cookies, pumpkin roll.

**Drinks:** Alcoholic punch, beer, soda, non-alcoholic beverages, coffee & tea.

**Entertainment:** Trivia contest, raffle, scavenger hunt, holiday gift exchange (value cap of \$15), and caroling.

Email Greg Smith at [president@borhs.org](mailto:president@borhs.org) by November 27th.



## Tidewater Division

### Board of Directors

Superintendent: Pat Mahoney  
(patmahoney356@gmail.com)  
Asst Superintendent: John Fallon  
(zzoxdoc@yahoo.com)  
Timekeeper: Bob Cook  
(seadevil8@verizon.net)  
Paymaster: John Robey  
(jrobey6@cox.net)  
Member at Large: John Cryderman  
(hjcryderman@cox.net)  
Member at Large: Fred Humphrey  
(fredrickhumphrey@outlook.com)  
Member at Large: Roger Bir  
(sorcerer54@cox.net)

### 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.



## Hobby Shop News

### [HobbyTown USA](#)

4000 Virginia Beach Blvd  
Virginia Beach, VA  
(757) 306-4760

### [Denbigh Hobby Center](#)

14351 Warwick Blvd  
Newport News, VA  
(757) 874-5708

### [Dales' Trains](#)

5880 Poplar Hall Dr.  
Norfolk, VA  
(757)461-3636

*"From the Caboose" continued from page 1*

access list. Keys to the display cases will be given **ONLY** to those on the access list.

Our November meeting will be at the Virginia Beach Central Library. Ms. Jennifer McDaid, Archivist for the Norfolk Southern, is scheduled to give a presentation on the history of the N&W, the Southern, and the merger.

I'm old enough to remember the raw power of steam locomotives, the gentle whisper of leaking steam, the shining flash of drive rods, the unique whistle sounds made by engineers. So many young folks today only know the full-throated roar of diesel power. I sometimes miss the dismal, lonely sound of a steam whistle far off in the dark night.

# Pat

