



"To advance the scale model railroading community across the Eastern Canada Division's region through education, advocacy, standards and social interaction"

Issue #1 September 2018



NMRA/ NER Booth at 2018 Show in Truro, NS

l to r - Bill Turczyn, Greg Williams, Bob Dennis, Steve McMullin and Bob Henry

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Welcome

Welcome to the first edition of our e-newsletter. As you know the Eastern Canada Division is far flung and that makes getting together difficult. Thanks to technology, we can bring those distances closer and get to know each other no matter if we are separated by many or just a few kilometres. The intent of this document is communication. You need to hear from us what is happening in your division and we need to hear from you what is going on in your area and how we can better serve your needs. For general comments and suggestions, send an email to the division email address; easterncanadadivision@gmail.com.

Do you have a favourite web site, blog or on line magazine? Send along the address(s) so the rest of us can share in the future feature "The Interchange". Speaking of sharing, we've got a segment called "**Getting to Know You**" where you tell us about you in up to 500 words and a headshot picture (optional)..

President's Message



Greg Williams (President, Eastern Canada Division)

Well, it has been about 9 months since we started to get things rolling and like any organization, it takes time to get things off the ground. What I want to do in this message is let you know what the executive has been up to.

- Through a Skype meeting organized by NMRA Canada President Steve McMullin it was decided to attempt to get a division active again in the Eastern part of Canada
- The division would encompass New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, PEI, and Newfoundland/Labrador and would be named the Eastern Canada Division.
- Four volunteers stepped forward to form the executive of the division until such time proper elections could be held. Those names are; Greg Williams of Canterbury, NB as President, George Jarvis of Bay South, NF Vice President, Bob Henry of Rothesay, NB Secretary and William Turczyn of Hampton, NB Treasurer.
- Steve McMullin contacted the membership to approve the executive
- Petitioned the NER to recognize the new division named the Eastern Canada Division and to dissolve the old Maritime Division.
- At an NER board meeting, this petition was approved, and we gained status as the Eastern Canada Division of the NMRA.
- Website and Facebook page created
- Name registered with the NB Government
- Bank Account created including \$100 loan from Treasurer to cover fees.
- Mission Statement for the Division developed
- Named executive members to the Board of Directors (BOD) for the Eastern Canada Division (ECD) for a three-year term
- Executive organized ECD presence at the annual MFMR convention in Truro
- Established 10% Discounts for NMRA members at Don's HO Service in Moncton and Maritime Hobbies and Crafts in Halifax

As you can see, this is a considerable amount of progress in a relatively short period of time. I am excited as the fall model railroading season comes upon us to maintain our momentum and continue to accomplish things and continue growth. One of the ideas on the horizon is an event that can be accessed by all members regardless of geography. This, of course will be somehow based on the Internet. The NMRA national group is also looking at establishing a Virtual Division on the Internet and providing events that way and I'm sure we can tap into their advancements to make our large area seem a little closer. Our aim is to involve everyone and make everyone feel like they are a part of the Division. For that to work, we need YOU! As always, you can email the division or contact me directly with any questions or concerns. gregw66@gmail.com or 506-279-2232



Steve McMullin (President, NMRA Canada)

As president of NMRA Canada, I am excited to welcome the Eastern Canada Division as an active Canadian division in the NMRA. NMRA Canada handles administration for Canadian members—we have an excellent Board of Directors who meet regularly online. The NMRA Canada board consists of: President—Steve McMullin (Saint John, NB), Vice-President—Ed Molenkamp (Edmonton, AB), Treasurer—Frank Gerry (Thunder Bay, ON), Secretary—John Bate (Winnipeg, MB), George Jarvis (Conception Bay South, NL), Dick Sutcliff (Maple Ridge, BC), and Doug Johnson (Regina, SK). The willingness of people to volunteer is a real encouragement! Our Canadian District representative on the NMRA Board, Fred Headon (Winnipeg, MB), also meets with us and contributes a great deal to NMRA Canada.

Our annual fee for Canadian NMRA members continues to be substantially less than for members in the United States because all of the administration in Canada is done by volunteers. We are especially thankful for Stephen Wood in Brampton, ON, our volunteer registrar and office manager, who does an amazing amount of work for us every month. The price of a subscription to *Scale Rails*, the official NMRA magazine, has become far too expensive for most Canadian NMRA members; on behalf of the Canadian board, I advocated for a change to an online magazine that all members (regardless of where they live) can receive at the same cost. We hope for a change in the near future.

Since last year, the dues for NMRA Canada members was increased by the NMRA national board but a small surplus and a slight increase in the value of the Canadian dollar has allowed the dues for NMRA Canada to remain unchanged.

Our task as the NMRA Canada Board of Directors is to serve all NMRA members living in Canada. We are interested in ways to promote the hobby and to increase our membership. We welcome your comments and suggestions.

Steve McMullin
President, NMRA Canada
mcmulls@nb.sympatico.ca

Regional Model Shops offer 10% discount for members

Both Don's HO Service in Moncton and Maritime Hobbies in Halifax offer NMRA members a 10% discount (ask them for details).

The password for Don's HO is "DULSE".

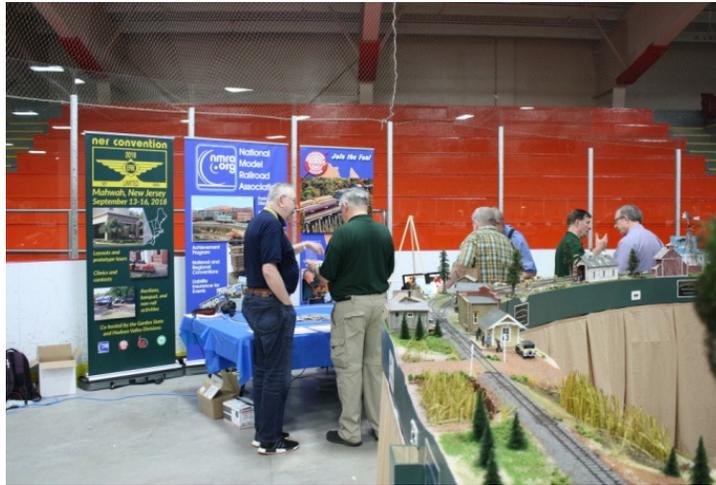
The password for Maritime Hobbies is "NMRA".

Also the NER and NMRA web sites have listings of manufactures offering discounts to NMRA members

Limited Liability Insurance comes with membership

Did you know your NMRA membership provides you with liability insurance when you're engaged in specific NMRA business (e.g. conducting a clinic or presentation for outside group(s), or hosting a convention layout tour). Full details are available on the NMRA site.

The 2018 MFMR Show in Truro.



The annual MFMR show was held in Truro in early June at the Colchester Stadium. The newly activated Eastern Canada Division of the NER made its debut appearance with the great assistance of Bob Dennis, who made the trip from Staten Island, New York, laden down with 3 of those pull up display posters.

Beside lots of written material being handed out, attendees who dropped by the booth received chapter and verse on the benefits of membership in the NMRA. Six new members were signed up and many more showed an interest in the re-activation of the old Maritime Division. The new name (Eastern Canada Division) more accurately reflects the area covered, which now in addition to the three Maritime Provinces also covers Newfoundland / Labrador.

Upcoming events

September 15 2018 – Windsor Model Railway Show, 9a to 4p, Windsor Community Center, 78 Thomas Street, Windsor NS <https://mfmr.ca/windsor-model-railway-show/>

October 13 2018 - Truro Model Train Show, 9a to 4p, NSCC, 36 Arthur Street, Truro, NS.
<https://mfmr.ca/annual-truro-fall-train-show/>

November 10 2018 Saint John Model Train Show, 9a to 3p, Lions Club, 9 Market Street, Quispamsis, NB.
<https://sites.google.com/site/sjsmrclub/>

December 1 2018 Fredericton Model Train show - 9a to 4p Fredericton High School Cafeteria, 300 Priestman St. Fredericton, NB <http://frederictonmodelrr.com/showpage-en.html>

The Balloon Track - News from around the Division

Why Should I Attend?

By George Jarvis



George Jarvis, VP ECD and Member of the NMRA Canada Board attended the National Convention in Kansas City and sent along the following
With apologies to Fats Domino, "I've been to Kansas City, they've got some great model railroads there and I got to see me some."

From August 5th. to August 11th. of this year I visited Kansas City, Missouri, to attend my sixth NMRA National Convention. Previous conventions included Milwaukee, Grand Rapids, Indianapolis, Cleveland and Orlando. So, why do I take a week of my time, and some dollars (US) to go to these annual events? The answer to this question has a number of components. Let me describe my activities for that week as a way to explain.

The week began with my arrival on Sunday evening after an early morning start from St. John's, NL and two airline connections to get me to KC. After check in and greeting some friends in the hotel reception line, that I had met at previous conventions, including one modeller from Germany who flies across the Atlantic each year to attend the conventions, it was off to the NMRA registration desk to sign in and pick up my name tag, tour tickets and any merchandise I may have ordered. Then off to bed for some rest and to get ready for Monday and the first full day of activities.

Monday morning and early afternoon were spent at clinics. These treasure troves of information, presented by very experienced modellers and presenters, range from, how to, historical, new products, etc. There are usually four to six clinics on going at the same time so one has to prioritize. Most clinics are one hour in length but there are also longer, hands on, clinics where participants get to build various model railroad items such as wooden bridges under the guidance of master model railroaders. By the way, two of the MMR's conducting the hands on clinics were Canadians, Clark Kooning and Fred Headon. In the late afternoon, I made my way to the Operations Special Interest Group room to make contact with the groups going out to operating sessions at various layouts in the Kansas City area. There, we grouped by layout destination and sorted out who had a vehicle and who needed a ride. Then it was off to the layout destination, with a meal along the way, and a great evening of operations on a super layout. Now, just to be clear, I am an operations guy. I love to run a model railroad empire as though it were the real thing. For those not into "operations", there were layout bus tours galore. Back to the hotel by eleven that evening to rest for the next day.

Tuesday morning saw us board three large busses at seven in the morning for a four hour tour of the second largest, full size, hump railway yard in the USA, the Argentine Yard in the suburbs of KC. This trip was a fascinating up close look at a real, large, operating railroad yard with hundreds of cars being processed in bound and out bound. From there we toured a gigantic intermodal operation. Both operations are part of the BNSF railway. Tuesday evening was another operating evening on a different layout.

Wednesday was spent in more clinics and, in the evening, attendance at the NMRA Canada annual general meeting. In addition to meeting my Canadian friends at this time and discussing issues related specifically to Canadian members, I got to hear from the outgoing NMRA president and the incoming one. Both dropped by to meet the Canadian contingent and welcome us.

Thursday, more clinics and an operating session on one of the largest model railroad layouts I have ever seen. It covered over 2600 sq. ft. with full scenery. There were twenty five operators on the roster that evening. I was one of two yard engineers under the direction of a busy yard master in the largest yard on the layout. I was in my glee.

Friday morning was spent at the Train Show. This is where the vendors show their wares and introduce new products. Convention attendees get to visit the Train Show from nine until noon before it is opened to the general public. I picked up some interior lighting modules and a wood craftsman building kit. More clinics followed in the afternoon and then back to the room to pack and prepare to fly out in the early morning. In between all of this, I got to spend time at the silent auction room and bid on a couple of items. I did win the bid on a Campbell's Talc Factory for a good price. Also included was a visit to the contest room to see the

amazing models on display and to meet and work with the AP Certificate folks on finalizing the paperwork for my second AP certificate.

It was a busy but very enjoyable week, meeting old friends and making new ones. This convention was one of the best of my six attendances. The attendance appeared to be higher and the organization was superb. One of the side perks of my six convention trips was the opportunity to visit areas of North America that I might never see otherwise. Next year it's Salt Lake City in mid July. Hope to see you there.

George Jarvis NMRA # 900570-00

Getting to Know You: Greg Williams, ECD President.



Greg Williams

I am 51 and currently live in Canterbury, NB. We are empty nesters for the first time, having raised 5 children. I have been interested in model railroading since I was about 10 years old, gaining an interest watching my father build models. My activity in the hobby has waxed and waned over the years. I am currently planning a small semi-portable layout for switching and running in of models. My main interests are DCC and electronics, I enjoy building models with all kinds of materials from paper to brass and have custom painted a few engines. My preferred prototype is the CPR in the script scheme but I'm just a general nut about trains.

THE F.R.E.D.

This space will be used for comments or whatever material doesn't fit, but for this issue we ask the questions: So, what did you think? What are we missing? Got an idea for a feature? Let us know, please.

Bob & Lou

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