



# Atlantic Division Express

Where the TCA began



OUR AIM: TO PROVIDE INFORMATION, INSPIRE PARTICIPATION & CONNECT WITH MEMBERS

## Winter 2017

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Display at the 2016 Hatboro Train Show benefiting the *Main Street Hatboro* restoration/improvement projects. Next show, Saturday, December 2, 2017. More information on page 4.

### President's Letter

First and foremost, I would personally like to wish you and your family a very Happy and Healthy holiday season. This is the time of year for family and friends to gather, exchange gifts and enjoy great food. It's also a time for our favorite pastime, trains! Whether they on a small circle of track are under the tree or on a huge layout, young and old still enjoy the simple pleasures of watching and running the toy trains that we all love so much.

As we approach the New Year, I always look back on the accomplishments and shortcomings of the past year. For the TCA, this has been a very successful year. Membership has stabilized and the association is in good financial condition. The museum

has been revitalized with innovations for improving the visitors' experience led by Bob Lubonski, our past president, and great volunteers and staff.

The Division's train shows had some challenges this year. In January, our show moved from the Plumbers Union Hall in northeast Philadelphia to Penns Landing Caterers, on the waterfront in South Philly. Mother Nature was less than cooperative for our first three shows giving us snow, ice, freezing temperatures, high winds and a monsoon. At the September show, the weather was great, however, a half-marathon caused the Police Department to partially close the streets around us. At the final show in November, we had the Philadelphia Marathon to deal with, but still had an outstanding show overall..

For 2018, the fall schedule has been adjusted, to eliminate conflicts with the other activities in the city. See the show calendar in this issue. A revised train show calendar card is included in this mailing.

On the positive side, the new hall is much larger and provides more space for train layouts and seminars without displacing table holders. The Boy Scouts used the meeting room in September for their Railroading Merit Badge. The food, which is prepared in-house, is outstanding.

The Atlantic Division is currently in good financial condition with our treasury maintaining a static balance since 2016. This is attributed to the success of our fundraising program. We produced 200 Wawa Hoagiefest O gauge boxcars, which sold out quickly, mostly in the regions where Wawa has stores. In addition, the American Flyer A&P woodside reefer appealed to a much wider audience and sold very well. There are still some A&P cars available. We are working on ideas for the fundraising cars for 2018.

The modular layout is finally complete and made its debut at the Railroad Museum of Pennsylvania in late August. It was well received by young and old alike. See the accompanying story below. Now that the division's layout is no longer in my basement, I can start re-construction my own layout! Hopefully, I can make significant progress this winter season.

Happy Holidays to you and yours! Russ Keil

### Atlantic Division Builds a New Traveling Layout

In late-2016, several of the AD members started work on the new traveling layout. Paul Fenn provided four pre-made 3' x 6' tables that were assembled into a 6' x 12' modular layout. The original plan included an outer track loop for S gauge trains, a second loop of O gauge track, an O gauge Bumper Track, two ovals of Super Streets and an interior Figure 8 O gauge track. However, before that was completed, an entire amusement park consisting of numerous Lionel accessories became available. It was decided to replace the Figure 8 with the entire Lionel amusement park including an operating Balloon Ride and surround it with another O gauge loop. To make transport and set-up easy, the Super Streets and Amusement Park/O loop are built on their own platforms with the accessories put in place and connected using a common bus connection.

Many hours of work went into the placement and wiring of the amusement park and the other



accessories with each one operable by push button switches across the front of the layout for the enjoyment of kids of all ages. The layout evolved into a high tech display being operated by a series of micro-computers assembled by AD President, Russ Keil.

We finished and tested

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it just in time to display it at the Railroad Museum of PA in August for their Model Railroading Days event. It seemed to be quite a hit with those that played with it, 'of all ages'.

Thanks to Russ and Steve Stevens and all of those who put many hours into the construction of this new display.

Along with displaying the new layout, the Division represented the TCA using a flat screen TV playing a recently made video of the National Toy Train Museum.

If you know of organizations that might be interested in having our layout displayed at their event, contact Mike Ramsey, (c) 610-324-6770, mdramsey@comcast.net.

Bob Lubonski, AD Past President & National Toy Train Museum Committee Chairman

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### **Model Railroading Days at the Railroad Museum of Pennsylvania August 19-20, 2017**

The Division displayed our new traveling layout at the two day event. The table height was deliberately kept low to allow the children to operate the push-buttons along the front edge and to see the actions that were produced. A video showcasing our Museum was continuously run with many parents planning on visiting either that day (approx. 1 mile away) or stopping-in very soon. Thanks to members Ray Emenecker, Paul Hutchinson, Ed Kapuscinski, Russ Keil, Bob Lubonski,



Joe Patrick, Mike Ramsey and Bob Wittendorf for their help at the show.

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### **Train Show at Penns Landing Caterers, September 24, 2017**

The show's attendees overcame blocked streets and police barricades because of the city's Half-Marathon race to view and purchase trains and accessories in all gauges. In the hall's lobby, Paul Fenn (BoD Director) set-up his Train Race display. Also displayed was the new Traveling Layout and manned by the Traveling Layout committee (Mike Ramsey, Terry Trickle, Ron DeWitt and many more members who stopped to help.)



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The Division provided free admission and classroom space during the Train Show to the *Cradle of Liberty Council- Boy Scouts of America (BSA)* for their Railroading Merit Badge seminar. Fifteen Scouts and five adults representing Troops 37, 120 and 252 attended the morning event.



The merit badge counselors were Walt Waholek, Roosevelt District, Unit Commissioner and Tim Miller Assistant Scoutmaster Troop 37, and an employee of Amtrak. Assistant District Chair Steve Leopold assisted with the seminar. After taking the subject matter proficiency test – all earned the Merit Badge. The Scouts circulated through the aisles to look and touch toy train history with some items over 100 years old, tried the Train Races and pushed all the buttons on the new layout.



Everyone had a great time – young and old alike. Tentative plans are to hold another seminar at the Train Show on January 7th and invite Cub Scouts to join in the fun of model railroading.

### Division News

#### **Election Results for 2018** (elected for 2 year term, 2018 to 2020)

Officers: Russ Keil—President, Tom Wagner—Vice-President

Directors: Ron DeWitt, Bill Erskine, Mike Hudek, Fred Mohn

**Fundraising Cars for Sale**—Go to [ADTCA.com/shop](http://ADTCA.com/shop) for information on availability and cost.

**Revised 2018 Show Schedule**—Jan. 7, Mar. 4, May 19 (Saturday), Sept. 23, **November 4**

### Coming Events / Activities



Division Train Shows, January 7th and March 4th, 8 am - 12:30 pm, /Penns Landing Caterers, .1301 S. Columbus Blvd., Philadelphia

Greenberg's Train and Toy Show, January 12-14, 2018, Greater Philadelphia Convention Ctr., Oaks, PA. *Volunteers needed Friday (Set-up, early afternoon), Saturday (all day), Sunday (all day and takedown at show close).*

64th National TCA Convention In Warwick, Rhode Island , Hosted By The New England Division, June 23 To July 1, 2018

### Member/Community Connection

#### **12<sup>th</sup> Annual Hatboro Train Show, Saturday, December 2, 2017**

Division member, Phil Haile (98-47717), has been associated with and is currently the chairman of a community improvement & restoration program, *Main Street Hatboro*, for several years. This year marks the 12th Annual Hatboro Train show, held at the Keith Valley, Middle School, 227 Meeting House Rd., Horsham, PA from 9 am to 3 pm with proceeds benefitting projects in downtown Hatboro PA.

The 2016 show featured nearly 50 vendors with 145 tables of model railroad merchandise and 10 operating displays in all gauges. The show is a family outing with a variety of displays, - modular,

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platforms, static displays and ample buying opportunities of starter trains up to the most modern equipment. Food service featuring snacks, sandwiches and drinks is available from the Home and School Association and all proceeds from the sale of food and drink benefit that organization. There is plenty of free parking on the premises. Members of the Hatboro Show Committee, on March 28, 2017, presented a check for \$4,000.00 to Main Street Hatboro. The proceeds were used to restore the town's clock. In the past 11 years, the show has contributed nearly \$50,000 to Main Street Hatboro projects.



Shown in the photo, standing from left to right, are members Ken Keiser –TCA-AD member, Phil Haile, Chairman, - TCA-AD member, John Lightner, John Lyons, Connie Wood, President, Main Street Hatboro, Al Zollers, Secretary, Sid Dorfman and, in front, Bruce Van Aken, Dale Temple, Jack Boland and Steve Barth, Manager, Main Street Hatboro

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**Using Styrofoam for your railroad - N Scale under construction (BNSF Hi-Line Division) and an O Scale finished layout** By Bill Erskine (86-24379)

Dan Pantaleo (layout tour TCA convention 2014) moved from Phoenixville to our neighborhood this spring. He tore down his hi-rail Lionel layout in the move and is building an N gauge layout modelling Whitefish, Montana. He is in the early stages but for newbies (and kids) it may be of interest to see a layout in progress.

An O gauge modeler for many decades, Dan Pantaleo, took almost two years to disassemble his Norfolk Southern Blue Ridge and Alta Vista Division layout before moving to a home in an active 55-and-better community. Dan had started plans for an N scale interpretation of the BNSF Hi Line Sub set in northwestern Montana. Long-time friend and HO enthusiast Earl Paine (layout tour, TCA Convention 2014) did an outstanding rendering of the layout in CAD.

Guided by Earl's design and expert advice for wiring and electronics needed for DCC operation and encouraged by Dan's O gauge friend and neighbor, Bill Erskine, Dan has begun construction. Questions can be sent to Dan at '726berk@comcast.com'.

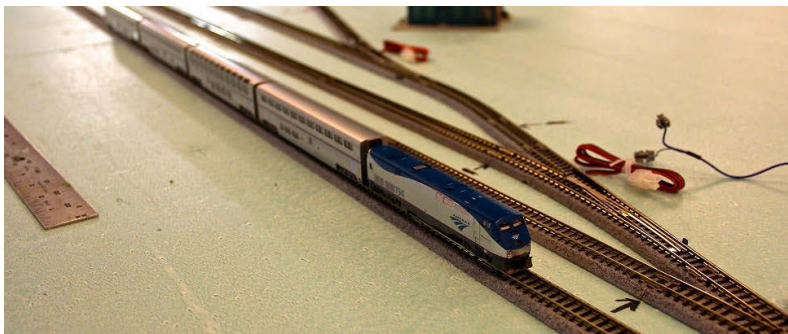
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The photos show some of the progress so far with the base of two layers of 2" foam in place, high level land feature locations sketched in, and N scale Kato Unitrack fitted and positioned into four power districts. Dan is very excited about the scenery opportunities for this layout; an interest he shares with Bill Erskine. The many stunning scenes on the prototype provide for soaring sight-blocking mountains as well as interesting river, creek and gorge features.



An overview of most of Dan's layout under construction. Eureka, MT wood lot siding and Tobacco River in the foreground; Whitefish, MT and Plum Creek Lumber far right; mainline crossing the middle branch Flathead River right center; Essex, MT main and yard center left; East Java passing siding and East Glacier, MT distant center left.



Amtrak train #8, the eastbound Empire Builder, is sitting at the future site of the Whitefish, Montana Amtrak station. Loading/unloading tracks for the Plum Lumber Company actually located in neighboring Columbia Falls, Montana are adjacent to the main line.



A work train sits on the MOW spur in the yard at Essex, Montana. Bus wires shown at the lower left are run in a channel carved at the base of the foam around the outside edge of the layout making for easier connections between the power drops and the main bus lines; another Earl Paine contribution.



Montana Rail Link (MRL) #4406 is at the Eureka, Montana wood lot near the Tobacco River ready to enter the main with log loads for Plum Creek Lumber once track power is established. The base of layered foam construction provides a firm and workable foundation.

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Another application of foam as a base for construction is shown below. This floor layout is approximately 6 X 10 feet and 2 foot high. My friend in New Jersey used 2-inch Styrofoam blocks and sheets to give elevations for interesting features and displays.



### Additional Contact Information on 'Open House' Displays of Model RR Clubs

National Model Railroad Association (NMRA) open Houses on [www.modelrailroadopenhouse.com](http://www.modelrailroadopenhouse.com)  
 Nazareth Area Society of Model Engineers: <http://nasme.tripod.com/openhouse.html>

### Fall-Winter Train Show Schedule: November 2017 to March 2018

DATE	SHOW	LOCATION
<b>Nov. 19, 2017</b>	<b>Atlantic Division – TCA</b>	<b>Penns Landing Caterers, 1301 S. Columbus Blvd., Phila., PA</b>
Nov. 25-26, 2017	Greenberg's Great Train & Toy Show	Garden State Expo Center, Edison, NJ
Dec. 2, 2017	12th Annual Hatboro Train Show	Keith Valley Middle School, 227 Meeting House Rd., Horsham, PA
Dec. 2-3 2017	Greenberg's Great Train & Toy Show	MD State Fairgrounds, 2200 York Rd., Timonium, MD
Dec. 3, 2017	Gilbertsville	CANCELED
Dec. 9-10, 2017	Greenberg's Great Train & Toy Show	Lebanon Valley Expo Center, RT. 72, Lebanon, PA
Dec. 17, 2017	Montvale Train Show	St. Joseph HS, 40 Chestnut Ridge Rd., Montvale, NJ
Dec. 23, 2017	Wayne Train Show	Wayne PAL Hall, 1 PAL Drive, Wayne, NJ 07470
Dec. 30-31, 2017	Greenberg's Great Train & Toy Show	Garden State Expo Center, Edison, NJ
<b>Jan. 7, 2018</b>	<b>Atlantic Division – TCA</b>	<b>Penns Landing Caterers, 1301 S. Columbus Blvd., Phila., PA</b>
Jan. 7, 2018	Tom's River Train Show	Elks Lodge 1875, 600 Washington St., Toms River, NJ 08753
Jan. 13-14, 2018	Greenberg's Great Train & Toy Show	Greater Phila. Expo Center, Oaks, PA
Jan. 20, 2018	Lehigh Valley Show	Merchants Square Mall, 1901 S. 12th St., Allentown, PA
Jan. 21, 2018	Lincroft Train Show	Christian Brothers Academy, 850 Neuman Springs Rd., Lincroft, NJ
Jan. 28, 2018	Hamburg	Hamburg Fire Co. Field House, Pine St., Hamburg, PA
Feb. 4-5, 2018	Great Scale Model Train Show	MD State Fairgrounds, 2200 York Rd., Timonium, MD
Feb. 4, 2018	Brick Train Show	Brick Elk's Lodge, 2491 Hooper Ave., Brick, NJ
Feb. 10-11, 2018	Greenberg's Great Train & Toy Show	York Expo Center, 334 Carlisle St., York, PA 17403
Feb. 11, 2018	Wayne Train Show	Wayne PAL Hall, 1 PAL Drive, Wayne, NJ 07470
Feb. 17-18, 2018	Greenberg's Great Train & Toy Show	Chase Ctr. on Riverfront, Justison Ave., Wilmington, DE
<b>Mar. 4, 2018</b>	<b>Atlantic Division – TCA</b>	<b>Penns Landing Caterers, 1301 S. Columbus Blvd., Phila., PA</b>
Mar. 10-11, 2018	WG Hobbies on Tour	Garden State Expo Center, Edison, NJ
Mar. 25, 2018	Wayne Train Show	Wayne PAL Hall, 1 PAL Drive, Wayne, NJ 07470
Apr. 8-9, 2018	Great Scale Model Train Show	MD State Fairgrounds, 2200 York Rd., Timonium, MD
Apr. 8, 2018	Montvale Train Show	St. Joseph HS, 40 Chestnut Ridge Rd., Montvale, NJ
Apr. 19-21, 2018	York TCA	York Fairgrounds, 334 Carlisle Ave., York, PA

## Feature Article

### VISIT TO JOSEPH A. JONES'S FLYERTOWN MUSEUM

By: Mike Hudek (90-32044)

On a bright day in June, I had the chance to get together with Joe Jones at his now closed *Flyertown Toy Train Museum* in Clermont NJ, 08210. Joe had the museum open to the public for almost 17 years. For a small fee, Joe would run his trains for hours. He loved the interaction with kids of all ages. Unfortunately, high insurance rates forced Joe to close the museum.

Joe has an impressive collection of Flyer and some Lionel and Marx. Joe also builds museum quality ships. Joe is a TCA member and loves to run the trains for visitors. Next time you are in the Cape May, NJ area give Joe a call (609-624-3173), he would love to show you his trains.



### Your Layout Photos

If you have a scene on your layout that you would like included in a future issue of the "Express", please send the image to Glenn Stinson at [jstinson@sprynet.com](mailto:jstinson@sprynet.com)

### Wanted or For Sale Advertising (next issue deadline—February 28, 2018)

Antique Train Repairs and Parts Specializing in Pre war and Post war Lionel trains, 0-27, 0 and Standard Gauge:  
**Andrew Zeugner, (99-49593)**

*Repair Technician— Hours by appointment only—856-875-7910 1143 Stanton Ave Franklinville N.J. 08322*

**WANTED**  
Lionel Lionmaster cab forward S.P. locomotive  
6-11107 cataloged in 2006 and 2007  
Contact **Ernst Leser (70-13494)** at  
[ernstleser@verizon.net](mailto:ernstleser@verizon.net) via yahoo.com

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