



# RHODE RAILS

The Newsletter of the Little Rhody Division

National Model Railroad Association

November/December 2016

## NEW MEMBER MEETING: NOVEMBER 5 CARDI'S COMMUNITY ROOM ATTLEBORO, MA. at 10:00 AM.

Attention all new members! Our first meeting since the show will be Saturday, November 5 at Cardi's in Attleboro.

This is a great time to find out what we can do for you as a modeler. Our members have a lot of talent, and we share it.

If you are new, this is the meeting for you. If you have not been to a meeting for a while, this is a chance to see what we are up to these days. If you have a friend who would like to know more, this is the meeting to bring them to.

Coffee and donuts around 9:30, and the formal meeting starts at 10:00. David Dekonski will explain where to buy equipment and materials for the N scale modules, Steve Erickson will show how easy it is to make a variety of stone walls, Sue Osberg will discuss the difference between "craftsman" wood kits and plastic kits, George Landow will show what can be made from scraps, and David Dekonski and Justin Maguire will discuss the pros and cons of modules versus fixed layouts.

Should be an interesting day for new members and more experienced members as well.

We will also have an "ASK A QUESTION GET AN ANSWER" session: Bring your questions, or better yet, send them along in advance so we can figure out the answer!

### Editor's Note:

Materials! We need articles, photos, tips, reviews, whatever you can provide for the newsletter. If you have built a kit, review it. If you have some great photos, share them! If you are working on the Author AP award, it all counts. So make this our newsletter, and contribute.

Thanks!

--- Steve Erickson

## Superintendent's Message November 2016

This has been a busy couple of months for the Little Rhody Division. In September, we did a Show and Tell meeting at the East Greenwich Methodist Church. David Kiley showed his progress to date on his Harry Potter G scale module that he hoped to have ready for the LRD Show in October (it was there and was very popular). Mike Tylick showed one of the structures he made for the Harry Potter layout (he made a second one and Sue Osberg contributed her Quality Quiddich Supplies building). Steve Erickson shared a building he'd been re-doing; Justin shared a module he was constructing and how he was putting it together. Sue Osberg showed the Bar Mills building she was wrapping up – the Graves Elevator building and Rich Szebda shared the work he's been doing on one of his N scale modules.

Mid-September brought the Narrow Gauge convention in Augusta, ME which was attended by David Kiley, Dean Johnson, Justin Maguire and others.

The following weekend found Sue and Brian Osberg, Steve and Bonnie Erickson and Bob and Carleen Peters in Albany for the 2016 Northeastern Regional Convention in Albany, NY. Steve and Sue presented the first glimpse of what the 2017 convention in Newport will be all about – Rails to the Gilded Age and had a chance to sit down with some of the regional convention committee members to discuss ideas and issues for our 2017 convention.

October 1 found Little Rhody members, especially the N scale modular group, at the library in Somerset, MA where they showed off the RI and Old Colony Railroad. N scale modules were shown from Justin Maguire, David and Shannon Dekonski, Rich Szebda, DK Paul, Sue Osberg, Mike Tylick, and Tom Emmett. The children who came to see the layout were enthralled as it was at just the right height for them to see and their parents were pleased their children were so taken by the layout. Several of those parents then brought their children to the train show two weeks later.

Then, the push to finalize details for the 2016 Little Rhody Train Show at the Pawtucket Armory. After a nerve-racking week of unexpected details that needed work, the show opened on Sunday, October 16 to sunny skies and people interested in all the layouts and vendors on hand. The N scale RI and Old Colony was the first layout as one entered the show, followed by the ON30 Narragansett Bay Railroad and Navigation Co layout. Also at the show was the large HO scale Amherst Belt Line layout, Thomas the Tank Engine from John and Joanne Sweeney, a children's layout run by Dean Johnson, another small floor children's layout and the wonderful Harry Potter module run by Master Wizard David Kiley. The great weather and Tom Brady's return to Gillette Stadium kept some of the numbers down that day, but it was a good show overall.

Coming up in the next two months are an LRD meeting on November 5 at Cardi's Function Room in South Attleboro where we welcome the new members who joined us at the show. December is our Holiday Party on the 3<sup>rd</sup> at the Church in East Greenwich – plans need to be finalized for that day....but save January 7 for another visit to Cardi's when Mike Tylick and Bob Peters, both experienced photographers, present a session on how to photograph your layout. Should be a very good presentation with these two gentlemen at the controls.

Save some time during the holidays for a trip to Newport, RI to see the Preservation Society's train display at the Breakers. Little Rhody members will be assisting the Preservation Society in setting up and running their G- and O-scale layouts this year.

And, of course, save November 9 – 12 of 2017 for a trip to Newport for the Northeastern Region Convention sponsored by Little Rhody, Rails to the Gilded Age. There should be something for everyone at that convention. Read more about it in the report by convention chairman, Steve Erickson.

I look forward to seeing everyone at our next meeting – November 5 at Cardi's in South Attleboro.

Happy Trains!

Sue Osberg  
Superintendent, LRD

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## LIBRARY PROGRAM A TREMENDOUS HIT

### LRD GOES TO THE LIBRARY

On October 1, 2016, the Little Rhody Division members packed up their N Scale T-TRAK modules and trekked out to the Somerset, MA library to make one of their several appearances in Bristol, County, MA. The appearance of the Rhode Island and Old Colony Railroad was made possible by LRD board member David Kiley. He not only made all the arrangements at the library, but he also created a color flyer for the event and approached business people and bulletin boards to post the fliers.

On October 1, LRD had their regular meeting at 10 am to do final planning for their model railroad show on October 16, and then opened up the RI and Old Colony to the viewing public. People who came through the library were treated to tables and shelves of books about railroads and stories about trains before they got to the display. As parents and children entered the railroad room, the children's eyes lit up almost like Christmas to see tiny trains running around the tracks.

LRD members were on hand to answer questions about the modular layout, remind people of the train show in two weeks and to talk about the Little Rhody Division in general. There was some interest in the division as many of the people didn't realize that there was such an organization in existence.

Also on display were two railroad cars decaled by Mike Tylick that were ready for the Harry Potter layout to be presented at the train show on Oct 16.

The N Scale modules represent (more or less) coastal RI and nearby MA to loosely represent the railroad line in the region. Modules in this display were created by David and Shannon Dekonski, Justin Maguire, Rich Szebda, Tom Emmett, DK Paul, Mike Tylick, and Superintendent Sue Osberg.



About 75 people with about 30+ children came through the display during the course of its run at the Somerset Library. Plans are in the works to repeat this at another local library in the coming months.

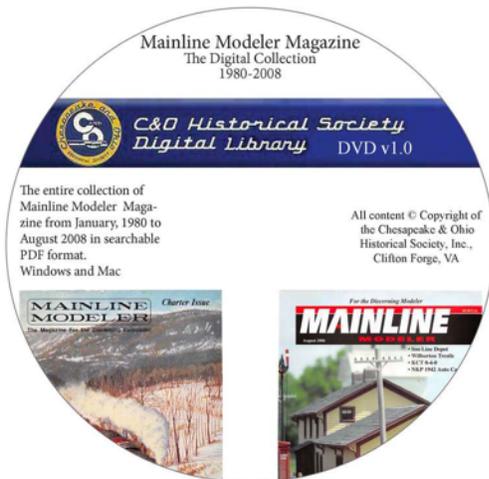
Sue Osberg  
LRD Superintendent

**NOVEMBER 5, CARDI'S: NEW MEMBER MEETING. COME ALONG AND BRING A FRIEND!**

## MAINLINE MODELER MAGAZINE AVAILABLE ON CD

*Mainline Modeler* was published between 1980 and 2008. For those lucky enough to find it on a newsstand and subscribe, it was an invaluable source of prototype information, drawings, and construction articles.

Issues on eBay can go for up to five dollars an issue. But now the entire run is available from the C&O Historical Society.



AV-15-195 www.chessieshop.com

The CD can be ordered at

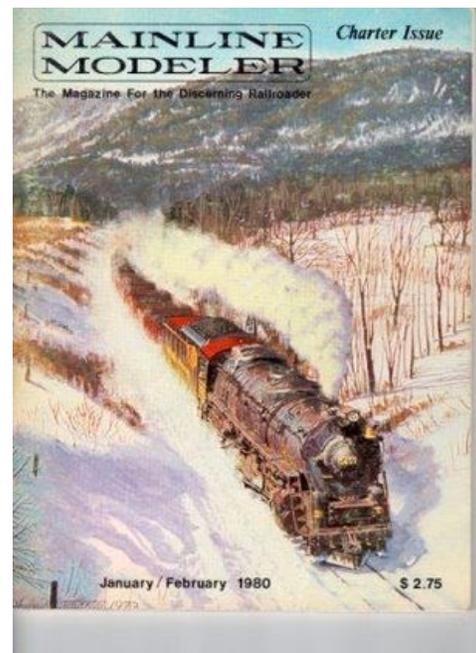
[http://chessieshop.com/index.php?main\\_page=product\\_info&cPath=31&products\\_id=3291](http://chessieshop.com/index.php?main_page=product_info&cPath=31&products_id=3291)

This CD is not cheap — it will cost as much as a high quality craftsman structure kit.

But if you are a scratchbuilding fan, or want to read some of the best available articles on construction techniques, there is no better resource available.

There many in-depth articles about various railroads, not just the C&O. Various forms of rolling stock are given comprehensive analysis in each issue. And the plans are invaluable.

The CD is basically a searchable PDF allowing you to read issues one at a time, or do some basic searching. The interface is not sophisticated, and the reproductions are basically scans of the magazine — since it was mostly produced before electronic publishing.



If you have the back issues of the magazine, you can save a lot of shelf space by buying the CD, and easily recoup the cost of it by selling off your back issues on eBay.

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LITTLE RHODY  
DIVISION  
MEETING SCHEDULE  
2016-2017

*All meetings Saturday mornings at 10:00 a.m. Each meeting will have a time set aside for answering questions and solving your problems. Send the questions to Sue Osberg at least a few days before the meeting.*

**November 5**

**Cardi's in Attleboro:** New Member day, discussion of internet resources, basic principals of track laying, other model railroading resources. Find those internet resources you never knew existed.

**December 3**

**United Methodist Church, East Greenwich:** Christmas Pot Luck, "Rails and Sails": fusing shipping and model railroading. NOTE: We have started an annual food drive for the December meeting, please bring canned goods to donate. This is a great time to bring the spouse/significant other for socializing with trains.

**January 7, 2017**

Location TBD. Model and Prototype Photography. Bob Peters and Mike Tylick will demonstrate techniques and show off examples of superb photography.

**February 4, 2017**

Location TBD. Workshop on simple upgrades for rolling stock. Learn how to make those simple kits stand out on your layout with a few quick fixes. Learn about couplers, trucks, and other things that will make your trains run on time.

**March 4**

Location TBD. Fixing your electrical block: how to get your railroad moving.

**April 1**

Location TBD. Rhode Island railroading in different eras. What are some great local short lines you can model? Find out!

**May 6**

Location TBD. Great places and ways to spend your summer vacation.

**June**

Annual dinner

