

MEETING MINUTES OF GARDEN STATE DIVISION, NORTHEASTERN REGION, NMRA

Purpose: Garden State Division (GSD) Staff Meeting

Date/Time: November 22, 2009 at 10:00 a.m.

Place: Home of Ed Fraedrich in Fairlawn, NJ

Attendees: Andy Brusgard, Tom Casey, Ciro Compagno, Bruce De Young, Chuck Diljak, Ed Fraedrich, Norman Frowley, Anthony Piccirillo, Tom Wortmann and guest Tom Piccirillo.

Reports were presented:

Secretary's Report

Tom W. motion to waive the reading and accept the September 13, 2009 GSD staff meeting minutes. There was a second motion to accept. There were no dissenting votes.

Treasurer's Report

- Anthony reported paying the \$100 annual fee for the GSD non-profit status in the State of New Jersey.
- A question was asked regarding the differences between "non-profit" and "not-for-profit". Anthony will research further.

Education Committee and AP Reports

- Norman summarized progress in the AP program. The latest is Bruce will be receiving an AP Certificate for Model Railroad Author in January 2010.
- Norman stated many activities that an individual does might be count toward an AP Certificate; e.g., Association Official and Association Volunteer. It is much easier to record your progress over time using an *AP Record and Validation Form* than attempting to complete all at once.

Events Report

GENERAL

- Andy volunteered to send a note to the GSD general membership in search of a good venue for future GSD meets.
- Bruce volunteered to contact model railroad companies within the Division in search of a good venue for future GSD meets.
- Anthony also volunteered to assist in the search of a good venue.

2010 MEETS

- September 2009 (NJD Meet) – there was a debriefing of the NJ Division Meet:
 - Clinics – 20 min.
 - Activity fees – NMRA member \$5 and non-NMRA member \$10
 - NJD members selling their model railroad items
- January 2010 (Business Meeting) –
 - The asking donation is \$4
 - Anthony volunteered to prepare the Paul Mallery Award. Preparation includes: update the metal platens (Norman 2008 and Chuck 2009), mount model engine, etc.
 - Bruce will give a 30 min. clinic on *Modeling Tips and Tricks*
 - Ciro will give a 30 min. clinic on *Layout Room Preparation*
 - It was agreed to table 2010 GSD event schedule for upcoming January

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- March 2010 - there was a general discussion to solicit home layouts in northwest section of New Jersey in late March.
- April 2010 (Spring Meet) – Bruce will follow-up with *The Model Railroad Club* in Union, NJ for the planned GSD Spring Meet.
- August 2010 (Summer Meet) – the last Sunday of August is preferred for the 2010 GSD Summer Meet.
- Tom W. filled out the participant schedule for the upcoming November Greenberg Show in Edison, NJ.

Membership Report

- Tom C. and Andy provided an update on the membership. There are about 261 GSD members.
- There is an approximately 3 to 4 mo. lag time from joining/renewing to updating the membership list.

Whistle Post Report

- Chuck indicated future issues will include:
 - Planned 2010 GSD schedule
 - Paul Mallery Award Rule revisions
 - Revisions to the GSD Constitution and Bylaws
 - Results of the 2010 GSD elections
 - Home layout series
 - NMRA Info Net News
- Andy volunteered to solicit layout photos from the GSD membership to possibly include in future newsletters.

Discussion of old business:

- Tom W. asked the GSD Constitution and Bylaws Committee to complete their work. The Committee consists of Chuck, Andy and Ciro. The most important change will be the introduction of term limits. The goal is to propose and vote on any changes at the January 2010 Business Meeting.
- There is ongoing debate among GSD staff members about the Paul Mallery Award rules, which still needs to be reviewed and agreed upon. The goal is to recommend any changes, review by the staff, and finally presented to the membership for vote at the January 2010 business meeting.
- Tom W. showed a sample page for proposed changes to the GSD website.

Next staff meeting will be at the home of Anthony in March 2010.

Meeting adjourned around 1:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ciro Compagno, Secretary