

THE TELEGRAPH KEY

A NMRA SUNSHINE REGION MONTHLY PUBLICATION

AUGUST 2023



2023 CONVENTION EDITION

Sunshine Region - NMRA



Where modelers come to share, develop, and learn new skills.



Welcome to the best region under the sun!

2023 Sunshine Region Convention

Convention Registration

WWW.NMRA.SUNSHINEREGION.ORG

Register NOW on our website! Only a few hotel rooms remain!!



SUNSHINE REGION OFFICIALS

Contents

EDITORS MESSAGE..... 3

..... 4

THE MAILCAR..... 4

..... 4

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE..... 4

ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM..... 6

NORTHERN DIVISION..... 7

EASTERN DIVISION 7

WESTERN DIVISION 8

SOUTHERN DIVISION..... 8

REGION CONVENTION 9

CORPORATE SPONSERS..... 10

CLINICS 10

THE CABOOSE CHALLENGE..... 11

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS..... 12

REGISTER NOW ONLINE 14

NATIONAL CONVENTION..... 15

THE ROUNDHOUSE..... 17

REVISED JUDGING GUIDELINES..... 17

THE ROUNDHOUSE..... 17

- President, Gene Jameson:
wejameson2000@yahoo.com
- Vice President, Jim Robinson:
jnr@tampabay.rr.com
- Secretary, Eric Menger:
emenger@gmail.com
- Treasurer, Glenn Kopriva:
GlennKopriva@yahoo.com
- Director at large, Andy Zimmerman:
seniorchiefz@outlook.com
- Director at large, Ken Hoot:
hootk@bellsouth.com
- Director at large, Paul Beckstrom:
pabloecks@comcast.net
- Director at large, Jeff "Ski" Guzowski:
jguzowski@bellsouth.com
- Northern Div. Super, Robert Feuerstein:
photobob321@gmail.com
- Eastern Div. Super, Benita Jameson:
bnferrco1@gmail.com
- Southern Div. Super, Robert Leonard:
leonardstrait@gmail.com
- Western Div. Super, Don Wetmore:
stjoeterminal@mail.com
- Achievement Program, Ken Hoot:
hootk@bellsouth.net
- Model Contest, Benita Jameson:
bnferrco1@gmail.com
- Journal Box Editor, Robert Raymond:
robertraymond@bellsouth.com
- Telegraph Key Editor, Glenn Kopriva:
glennkopriva@yahoo.com

EDITORS MESSAGE



All, here we are in August, our convention less than 45 days away! I urge you to register online on our new website as soon as possible. I know we have less than a handful of rooms left! Do not delay, go online and register today!!

On a side note, there has been some spam messages going around. If you get one and its not from an email you recognize simply delete it or mark it as Spam or Junk but do not open it. Any emails from NMRA or the sunshine region will ONLY come from **NMRA.org** or **NMRA_SunshineRegionMail@Yahoo.com** or from a **Sunshine Region Official** listed on page 2 anything else should be treated as a scam.

Lastly, our website has changed. Most everyone should of received an email from the Sunshine Region and NMRA.org talking about the change. The front cover of this issue shows you the new home page. If you don't see that image of the moving/smoking train you are on the wrong site. Our new website is now WWW.NMRASunshineRegion.org do NOT use the old website as we do not have control of it. Unfortunately, we were forced to make a website change to keep continuity and security of the Regions' website.

If you made a reservation online on or before 7/15/23, rest assured we have your registration information and payment. If you registered on the old site after 7/15/23 please email me a copy of your registration (you would of received an email confirmation of your registration) and how you paid (don't send me credit card numbers just how you paid, Visa, Amex, Paypal etc., and we will research this and get back to you quickly.

Please feel free to email me directly any comments, questions or items that could be added to next month's newsletter. Remember, the Telegraph Key is also available to read or download directly on our website!

Happy Railroading!

GLENN KOPRIVA

EDITOR, TELEGRAPH KEY

THE MAILCAR



[This Photo](#) by Unknown Author is licensed

With the change of websites, we had some comments about the new home page look:

“Seriously, Home page for the Sunshine Reigon with a beautiful drone video of a train chugging thru the mountains covered with snow! ugh!” – Gregg Stoll

“I really like the video.” -Allison Dendy

“Why do you have steam in the mountain snow for a state that is flat and sunny all the time?. I think you should show the FEC on the seafront, sand and sun!” – Dave Hastings

Thanks for all your comments but rather than showcase Florida we opted to focus on **Trains**, both Steam and Diesel and the memories we all have about them. We all model different periods, locations and seasons that tell a story about a time and place that has meaning to us individually. Let’s celebrate the hobby we love and enjoy not necessarily where we physically live today!

Please email me, glennkopriya@yahoo.com any comments, questions or suggestions to keep this format engaging for all. It’s our way to stay involved and keep you involved!

~~~~~

## PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

I would like to address an unfortunate business issue that has created some angst among our SSR members. Over the past several months, numerous people have been receiving emails from our former webmaster, Frank “Chip” Pecere. Despite our best efforts internally, Mr. Pecere has felt the need to send out rogue and unapproved messages in emails and online social media postings.

Additionally, Mr. Pecere has taken issue with the types of board meetings he can attend. There are Open Board Meetings where any SSR member can attend, Full Board Meetings for all SSR board members and officers, and the Executive Board Meetings where only elected board members (and invited guests) with voting rights may attend. Typically, these meetings deal with very sensitive issues, sometimes disciplinary, and are not for general consumption. Mr. Pecere

was previously allowed into several meetings to report on the status of the website and related issues. At every meeting he has attended, except one, he has been disruptive, including outbursts and not observing the rules for the meeting. Then he put his uninformed and unapproved version of the minutes in these various emails and postings. In July, the SSR had an Executive Board Meeting with Frank Koch (NMRA CFO / AP Chairperson) in attendance. Mr. Pecere jumped onto the meeting knowing he was specifically disallowed as a matter of official business and was not invited. Several board members asked him to leave, and he refused to leave. Frank Koch told him he needed to leave, but Mr. Pecere adamantly refused to leave because he felt he had a right to be there. Subsequently, due to his refusal to follow proper protocol and unprofessional demeanor, Mr. Pecere was removed from his status of Webmaster, an appointed position. It is unfortunate that we had to take this action, but not doing so would be a failure in leadership. You elected me to lead the SSR, and unfortunately, leadership means making tough decisions and at times, meting out discipline to those who cannot follow the rules when required.

Mr. Pecere was instructed to return control of the Web assets to Glenn Kopriva no later than July 12th at 6:00 PM ET but he instead seized the Region's website and refused to return it to the SSR. (The website is a Region asset, and the Region paid for the website through April 2024.) As stated earlier, Mr. Pecere has been removed as the Webmaster for the Region. Mr. Pecere's site ([www.sunshineregion.org](http://www.sunshineregion.org)) **IS NOT** the official Sunshine Region website anymore. If you registered for the 2023 Sunshine Region Convention on Mr. Pecere's website after July 15<sup>th</sup>, please forward your confirmation email to Glenn Kopriva ([glennkopriva@yahoo.com](mailto:glennkopriva@yahoo.com)).

The official Sunshine Region website is: <https://nmrasunshineregion.org>

The official email address for the Sunshine Region is: [nmra\\_sunshineregionmail@yahoo.com](mailto:nmra_sunshineregionmail@yahoo.com)

The official Social media pages are: <https://www.facebook.com/NMRASunshineRegion/> and <https://www.facebook.com/groups/nmrasunshineregion> respectively.

We are sorry for any confusion created by this situation and ask for patience as we finish resolving the issues.

If you have questions about which website is official or registering for the convention and cannot reach a Board member, please call Jeff Guzowski at 954-401-0804 or Glenn Kopriva at 813-482-4274.

**GENE JAMESON**

**PRESIDENT**

## **ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM**

Two AP's were awarded:

Andy Zimmerman from Tallassee Florida received his Volunteer AP Northern Division

Richard Segall from Hawthorne Florida received his Civil AP Northern Division.

**KEN HOOT**

**ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM CHAIR**

---

## **TREASURERS REPORT**

The Regions treasury is secure; however, we still have some issues with the old website that are being looked at. As mentioned earlier, if you have registered on or before 7/15/23 we have your registration. If you **registered after 7/15/23 on the old site** please contact me directly and send me a copy of your email confirmation and method of payment and we will see what we can do. If you did not get an email confirmation you ARE NOT registered for the convention.

We did send an urgent email on 7/15/23 to all members alerting them of the website issue and pointed them to the new site. National NMRA sent out a specific email identifying the website change as well. But we know sometimes an email can be overlooked so if you are concerned please email me.

Local businesses and clubs are welcome to place advertisements in the Monthly Telegraph Key, Quarterly Journal Box or our Annual Convention Timetable publication, for more information contact me via email.

**GLENN KOPRIVA**

**TREASURER**

---

## NORTHERN DIVISION



For those of you who don't know me, I am Robert Feuerstein, your Northern Division Superintendent. If you are new to the SSR and live in the Northern Division Boundaries, please feel free to e-mail me with any questions or comments about how we can improve your NMRA experience and what you would like to see at future events. Many of you have told me that you are reticent to travel long distances for clinics, so throughout the year, we have had several Virtual clinics featuring Manufacturers, NMRA MMR's and other Subject Matter Experts (SMEs). In June, we had three clinics at the Tallahassee Model Railroad Show and Sale that were both in-person and virtually presented. At the moment, I am developing the clinics for this next quarter so I would love to hear what you want to know more about so we can schedule the right people. Lastly, don't forget to register for the regional convention in Plant City. What better place to meet fellow like-minded modelers from the SSR? Please feel to reach out to me and say hello while you are there. I am always interested in what the Northern Division Folks have to say, (Well, any fellow modeler, actually)! Let me hear from you!

**ROBERT FEUERSTEIN**

**NORTHERN DIVISION SUPERINTENDENT**

---

## EASTERN DIVISION



Hi, my name is Benita Jameson and I am your Eastern Division Superintendent.

I was introduced to model railroading when I married my husband, but my passion for trains has been lifelong. As both my father and grandfather were railroad men, some of my earliest memories were centered around dining cars and sleepers. I attended my first national convention in 2005, and the rest as they say, is history. After my first few conventions, I became actively involved; first by volunteering, later by giving clinics, and finally by judging. I have been judging on a national level since 2011. I was volunteer coordinator at the 2017 convention.

Currently, I am the SSR Contest chair as well as superintendent. I look forward to hearing from you with comments and suggestions for upcoming events.

## **BENITA JAMESON**

### **EASTERN DIVISION SUPERINTENDENT**

---

## **WESTERN DIVISION**



No updates for August.

## **DON WETMORE**

### **DIVISION SUPERINTENDENT**

---

## **SOUTHERN DIVISION**



Greetings Southern Division,

There is not much I can offer this month. I have been on the road for most of the month. I have just returned this past weekend, so I am unaware of current happenings in the division. I can only reiterate that we will be having another Workshop in October hosted by the ECHOES. As I said before it will follow the standard workshop schedule, meet & greet, clinic, lunch, clinic, and raffle.

Four of the members of the SFRM in Deerfield signed up for the regional in Plant City, with another five considering the event. The thought of riding Brightline and the fact they can tour the maintenance facility intrigued them. The first four also signed up as SSR members, I'm working on the other. I'll get them signed up for the class at the convention that is tailored to explain the parameters of contest judging. There is some confusion about if their registrations will be recognized considering the change of websites mid-stream. They signed up before the sites were changed and then discovered the disclaimer that our site was hacked, time will tell.



Well, information this month is paltry, but I had a good trip north visiting many rail related museums and friends. There isn't much more to report until next month Model 60. Sixty minutes a day and you will complete that project, keep at it!

**ROBERT LEONARD**

**DIVISION SUPERINTENDENT**

---

## **REGION CONVENTION**

Can you believe we are just 45 days from our 2023 convention?! The **hotel room allotment is almost full**, and we increased our block of rooms by 10 from last year and only have **5 left!!** Don't delay – Register today! (I strongly suggest you register online (link on page 14) in order to get your room at the convention hotel. Should the rooms at the Holiday Inn fill up you can call the Quality Inn @ 321-710-0339. They are located 1 block away from the Holiday Inn. We do not have any pricing locks with them so use those AARP discounts if applicable.

This is going to be a great convention and train show. As I mentioned last month, we have a new caterer serving a steak and chicken combo along with sides and beverages and a convention cake! On top of the great food, we will also have Katie Mitzner from Brightline to tell us their journey and Gordy Robinson, president of the NMRA will also be in attendance. Okay, enough name dropping – you know you are really wondering about the raffles. I can tell you this, we already have over \$2,000.00 in donations that everyone has a chance to win... all it takes is one ticket to win (hmm, I've heard that before somewhere 😊), so insure you buy your raffle tickets now and a few extra at the show!!

I've included a copy of the registration form on page 16, so if you do not want to register online, please print out the registration form and get it in the mail today!

## **CORPORATE SPONSERS**

I would like to thank our corporate sponsors who have generously supplied merchandise and materials to make our convention a success. Please support these companies when you can:

- |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Showcase Miniatures</li> <li>❖ Soundtraxx</li> <li>❖ RIXX Products</li> <li>❖ RAM (Radio Controlled Models, Inc)</li> <li>❖ Intermountain Railway Company</li> <li>❖ Blackstone Industries, LLC</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Larc Products</li> <li>❖ Ron's Books</li> <li>❖ Wm. K. Walthers, Inc.</li> <li>❖ Tru-Color Paints</li> <li>❖ Microscale Industries</li> <li>❖ Build Your Own Model Railroad.com</li> <li>❖ Kadee Quality Products, Co.</li> </ul> |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

Thanks to all our sponsors!

## **CLINICS**

|                   |                                                         |
|-------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|
| Andy Zimmerman    | T-Trak, a Day in the Life of a T-Trak Module            |
| Benita Jameson    | (2) Clinics on Judging 101 & 102                        |
| Bob Leonard       | Hands-On Making Signs for Buildings (Clinic is 2 Hours) |
| Bob Miller        | Modeling Florida Scenery                                |
| Bruce Lauerman    | Getting You AP Golden Spike                             |
| David Leider      | Chicago Stock Yards                                     |
| David Leider      | Wood Street Potato Yard/Shipping Potatoes               |
| Don Wetmore       | Introduction to Operations on Your Model Railroad       |
| Don Wetmore       | Modeling a Prototype Passenger Consist                  |
| Gary Garbacz      | Installing DCC Decoders in Diesels                      |
| The Telegraph Key |                                                         |

|                      |                                                                                               |
|----------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Gene Jameson         | Documenting Your Layout                                                                       |
| Glenn Kopriva        | 3D Printing, an intro into printing and where to find prints                                  |
| Gordy Robinson (MMR) | Meet the NMRA President                                                                       |
| Jim Morse            | Weathering Boxcars                                                                            |
| Jim Weiss            | Add Lighting to Modern Day Locomotives                                                        |
| John Crellin         | JMRI Creating a CTC Panel                                                                     |
| John Wilkes (MMR)    | Trackside Scenery                                                                             |
| Ray Hazen            | Arduino Timers and State Machines                                                             |
| Ray Hazen            | Building a Battery Powered Locomotive (HO, On30, & O Scales)                                  |
| Rich Mahaney         | <b>14 Clinics</b> (Clinic info will be available in mid-August Special Edition Telegraph Key) |
| Tom Wilson           | Building Details through the Eyes of a Building Inspector                                     |
| Tom Wilson           | Layout Renewal/Rehabbing Your Layout from Old to New                                          |

**Note:** All Clinics will be 1 hour, except Bob Leonard's, Hands-On Sign Clinic, which will be 2 hours.

***We are in need of a few more clinicians, so if you, or you know someone, who would be interested in presenting a clinic at the 2023 Convention, please call or email me:***

Jeff (Ski) Guzowski, SSR Director at Large – cell:954 401-0804 email:[jguzowski@bellsouth.net](mailto:jguzowski@bellsouth.net)

### **THE CABOOSE CHALLENGE**

The Caboose Challenge started when Rich Mahaney (Gobles, Michigan) came down to present 4 clinics at one of our Eastern Division Workshop. When I met Rich, we started talking about how to get more people involved in bringing models to our convention. He told me about a Caboose Challenge they ran for one of their NMRA, North Central Region Conventions, which is centered around the Great Lakes states of Michigan, Ohio, and Indiana. Rich did a Caboose Challenge Presentation at the 2022 SSR Convention Banquet last year, and we had 30+ people immediately accept the challenge.

The Caboose Challenge is free and open to anyone coming to the SSR 2023 High Speed Rail Convention in Plant City. Everyone from young to old, NMRA Members, non NMRA Members, you just need to be willing to build a Diorama any size up to 24x24", any Scale (N, HO, S, and O) of a caboose in its "2<sup>nd</sup> Life After the Railroad". There will be example pictures in the T-Key and on our (SunshineRegion.Org) Website.

The winners will be chosen by a "People's Choice" vote, the Ballot will be in your Goody Bag, so please look for it. There will be 4 prizes to be presented to the winners. The Grand Prize will be a 2024 Convention Registration and Banquet ticket. Second Prize will be a 2024 Banquet ticket, Third Prize will be \$25 off their 2024 Convention Registration, and Fourth Prize will be \$20 off their 2024 Registration. *Disclaimer: Prizes are non-transferrable, non-refundable, and have no cash value.*

There will be a Special Clinic Room set up for display of the Caboose Dioramas. You will need to fill out a Model Entry form as the Model Diorama will only have a number. Caboose Challenge Models need to register before 10AM on Saturday morning. People Choice voting starts on Saturday between the hours of 10:30AM and ends at 3:30PM.

So, are you ready to get off your "Caboose" and get ready for the Challenge?

If you have any questions about the Caboose Challenge, please contact:

Jeff (Ski) Guzowski, SSR Director at Large - cell 954 401-0804 email [jguzowski@bellsouth.net](mailto:jguzowski@bellsouth.net)

## **SCHEDULE OF EVENTS**

What a convention the SSR Board of Directors has planned for everyone this October. We have been working really hard to provide you with 3 days of fun-filled events that you won't want to miss. The Board chose Plant City again to hold down the cost of our conventions, so it's easier on your wallets. From all the searches we have done during this year and past years, no other venue has been able to match the price and value (hotel and Trinkle Center) along with the needed space to hold a Train Show that accommodates all our needs.

NMRA President, Gordy Robinson (MMR) (all the way from Scotland) and NMRA Vice President, Rick Coble, will be our guests at the convention this weekend.

NMRA North Central Region President, Rich Mahaney will be returning again this year to help with the Caboose Challenge and another surprise challenge for 2024.

There will be an early registration drawing, for those who register before Thursday, August 31<sup>st</sup>, for an Air Brush. So please register as soon as you can, to be entered for this drawing.

### **Our Convention starts on Thursday morning, October 12<sup>th</sup>, 2023**

With our tour of the Brightline Maintenance facility at the Orlando Airport. Brightline will be getting their FRA Approval in September for full service between Miami and Orlando. For those who are planning to take the tour, please pay attention to the Telegraph Key for any tour changes that may arise. I will also email each of you individually, that are on the tour, on any changes to the tour.

Registration will be open at the hotel between 4-5:00PM and 7-7:30PM.

Thursday evening, there will be an OP Session on Tom Wilson's HO Pittsburg and West Virginia/Union Railroad between 4-9PM, (dinner is included at this OP Session).

Dinner is an "On Your Own" night, and we have included a sheet in your Registration Packet, for a list of Restaurants in Plant City to choose from.

Between 7:30-9:30PM, there will be 2 Clinics presented by Rich Mahaney at the Holiday Inn, in the first-floor meeting room. One of the clinics Rich is presenting will be a member participation clinic and one not to miss.

### **Friday, October 13<sup>th</sup>**

We have one Hands-On Clinic, and (18) Hourly Clinics scheduled for today. Clinics will start at 8:30 AM, at the Trinkle Center.

Model and Caboose Challenge Registration opens today at 10:30AM.

We also have an OP Session on John Wilkes (MMR) HO, Virginia Southwestern Railroad, from 4-9PM (dinner is included at this OP Session).

Attendees will be on your own for dinner. Later tonight we will be having an Ice Cream Social Meet and Greet on the patio at the Holiday Inn, between 7-9PM.

### **Saturday, October 14<sup>th</sup>**

There are more Hourly Clinics (18) and a Train Show (with lunch available inside the Train Show room).

All Model Registrations must be completed today by 10AM. AP Judging will start at 11:30AM. The Caboose Challenge will be done by Popular vote (this ballot will be included in your Registration Packet).

Lunch will include a choice of a meatball sub or a quarter pound hot dog with a bag of chips and a drink for \$5.

Saturday night, our SSR Banquet will start serving dinner at 6PM. This year we will be serving a Marinated Flank Steak and Grilled Boneless Chicken Breast (you get both), served with Tropical Fruit Salsa, Caribbean Rice, a Garden Salad, Roasted Vegetables, assorted rolls, Tropical Chips and a Dessert Basket with Cookies and Brownies and a Celebration Cake. Sodas, Coffee, Ice Tea and Water will be provided.

Our Guest Speaker for the Banquet will be Brightline Director of Public Affairs, Katie Mitzner M.A. Katie will be sharing the latest info about Florida's newest passenger railroad, and the extension to Orlando, which involves 168 miles of new track, and a new state-of-the-art maintenance facility.

Next, we will have the Award presentations for the Celebration of Models, Caboose Challenge, and AP Model Judging. Our Raffle will follow the award ceremony.

Also, there is a special coupon for a "Door Prize" in your Registration Package, for those attending the Banquet, please remember to bring it with you that night.

**Sunday, October 15<sup>th</sup>**, there will be a SSR Board of Directors meeting at 9AM, located at the Holiday Inn first floor meeting room.

I hope to see you all at our 2023 SSR High Speed Rail Convention, in Plant City.

That's all I have for now, and if you have any questions, please contact me.

Jeff "Ski" Guzowski, Director at Large – [JGuzowski@Bellsouth.Net](mailto:JGuzowski@Bellsouth.Net) – Cell (954) 401-0804

**REGISTER NOW ONLINE**

<https://www.nmrasunshineregion.org>

**(Press CONTROL + Click)**

For those of you planning on staying at the Holiday Inn please get your registration in quickly as rooms are filling up – only 5 rooms left!

**GLENN KOPRIVA**

**CONVENTION CHAIR**

---

## **NATIONAL CONVENTION**

The 2023 National Convention will be held in Dallas/Ft. Worth, TX. For more information, please click on the link below:

<https://www.2023texasexpress.com/>

(press control key and click link to go to site)

---

**HIGH SPEED RAIL SPECIAL  
2023 SUNSHINE REGIONAL CONVENTION  
REGISTRATION FORM**

*(please read website convention information page before filling out registration form)*

|                                                                                                                                                            |        |           |                   |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|-----------|-------------------|
| Registrant Name:                                                                                                                                           |        |           |                   |
| Name on Badge:                                                                                                                                             |        |           | NMRA#             |
| Address:                                                                                                                                                   |        |           |                   |
| City:                                                                                                                                                      | State: | Zip Code: |                   |
| Email Address:                                                                                                                                             |        |           |                   |
| Cell Phone Number:                                                                                                                                         |        |           |                   |
| Emergency Contact Name & Number:                                                                                                                           |        |           |                   |
| Spouse/Significant Other:                                                                                                                                  |        |           |                   |
| Spouse/Significant Other: Name on Badge:                                                                                                                   |        |           |                   |
| <b>Item</b>                                                                                                                                                |        |           | <b>Base Price</b> |
| <i>Note: (registration includes Thursday Brightline tour)</i>                                                                                              |        |           | <b>Quantity</b>   |
| <b>Total</b>                                                                                                                                               |        |           |                   |
| Registration - Received on or before <b>8/15/2023</b> (Hotel Discount available)                                                                           |        |           | \$90.00           |
| Registration - Received <b>after 8/15/2023</b> (No Hotel Discount)                                                                                         |        |           | \$100.00          |
| <b>Hotel Room Discount Rate is \$109 (plus tax) per night. Ends after 8/15/23 -- min 2 night st</b>                                                        |        |           |                   |
| <b>Will you need the discount code for the hotel? (2 night min stay)</b>                                                                                   | Yes    | No        | Circle One        |
| Spouse Registration                                                                                                                                        |        |           | \$40.00           |
| One Day Registration      Friday      Saturday      Circle One                                                                                             |        |           | \$50.00           |
| Saturday Banquet Per Person <i>(read website info page for meal description)</i>                                                                           |        |           | \$35.00           |
| Hands on Clinic #1 - Friday 1pm - 3pm      Signs by Bob Leonard                                                                                            |        |           | \$10.00           |
| Train Show Entrance fee ( 100 vendor tables, Lego layout, lunch counter)                                                                                   |        |           | \$3.00            |
| Raffle Card -- each card contains 10 raffle tickets                                                                                                        |        |           | \$10.00           |
| Raffle Card - get three cards (30 tickets) for \$25 -- save \$5.00                                                                                         |        |           | \$25.00           |
| <b>NO REFUNDS ON OP SESSIONS UNLESS OP SESSION IS CANCELLED</b>                                                                                            |        |           |                   |
| OP Session #1 Tom Wilson's, Thursday 4-9pm, pizza dinner (5 hr session) <b>MAX 9 people</b>                                                                |        |           | \$20.00           |
| OP Session #2 John Wilkes Friday 4-9pm Dinner provided (5 hr session) <b>MAX 12 people</b>                                                                 |        |           | \$20.00           |
| <b>Will you be attending the Brightline tour on Thursday?</b>                                                                                              | Yes    | No        | Circle One        |
| <b>Will your spouse be attending the Brightline tour on Thursday?</b>                                                                                      | Yes    | No        | Circle One        |
| <b>Will you be entering into the Caboose Challenge?</b>                                                                                                    | Yes    | No        | Circle One        |
| <b>Will your spouse be entering into the Caboose Challenge?</b>                                                                                            | Yes    | No        | Circle One        |
| <b>Is this your first Sunshine Regional Convention?</b>                                                                                                    | Yes    | No        | Circle One        |
| <b>NON NMRA Members:</b>                                                                                                                                   |        |           |                   |
| Railpass, NMRA 9 month membership -- includes ALL National perks and digital magazine                                                                      |        |           | \$19.95           |
| NMRA Non-Member Surcharge (if not selecting Railpass above)                                                                                                |        |           | \$10.00           |
| <i>If you are not a NMRA member, due to insurance regulations with the NMRA Insurance Carrier you must pay the surcharge or Select the Railpass option</i> |        |           |                   |
|                                                                                                                                                            |        |           | <b>Total</b>      |
| <b>Payment by mail can only be made by check payable to:      NMRA Sunshine Region</b>                                                                     |        |           |                   |
| <b>Mail check and registration form to: Glenn Kopriva, Convention Chair, 4621 Bexley Village Dr. Land O Lakes, FL 34638</b>                                |        |           |                   |
| <b>Payment by credit card can only be made on-line. Cash payment will only be accepted at the Convention</b>                                               |        |           |                   |
| <b>Refunds will be accepted as follows:      NO REFUNDS ON OP SESSIONS UNLESS CANCELLED</b>                                                                |        |           |                   |
| 100% of all fees will be refunded less a \$10 processing fee If cancellation is received no later than September 1, 2023.                                  |        |           |                   |
| If cancellation is received after September 1,2023 and before September 15, 2023 -- 50% of all fees will be refunded.                                      |        |           |                   |
| <b>No refunds after September 15, 2023</b>                                                                                                                 |        |           |                   |



## THE ROUNDHOUSE



I hope everyone enjoyed my journey in model railroading or had a good chuckle. Below highlights the changes in Judging.

### REVISED JUDGING GUIDELINES

To be a judge you must meet the following criteria and follow the below rules:

- All judges must attend Judging 101 class.
- Lead judges must attend both Judging 101 and 102 classes
- **All AP judging to be performed by judges outside of the modeler's own division.** Models judged at the Region convention are exempt from this rule.
- All judges must sign (and print) their names on the back of the #902 form in the spaces provided.
- All documentation on the #902 form must be in ink, including scores. Any errors/changes made to the form must be initialed by both the lead judge and the Contest or AP chairman. In addition, a detailed explanation as to the reason for the change must be written on the back of the form.
- All original #901 and #902 forms will be retained by the Contest or AP chairman. Photocopies or scans of the completed forms will be returned to the modeler.

---

## CLUB ACTIVITIES

The South Florida Railway Museum (SFRM) announced an annual award up to \$1,000 to help a club in the Sunshine Region finance a project that provides major value and benefit for the promotion of the hobby.

It is called the Kempner Memorial Award in honor of Marvin Kempner (MMR 405) who was the Patriarch of the SFRM. Marvin visited us nearly every Saturday and provided some interesting stories of his encounters, he was 96 years old when he passed.

Applications for the award should be mailed no earlier than August 1st, and no later than September 30th.

The parameters are simple, an organization submits their request via email, or letter with the following information and be titled the Kempner Award. (For example: Kempner Award – *Organization Name Here*)

Contents of the email should include the name of the organization and a brief description of the project. It should include the names, telephone numbers, and email addresses of two organization officers or members who can be reached if a question is to be asked by the selection board. These two members should also be available to receive the grant at the October convention.



The e-mail body should include a ONE-page attachment that fully describes the project and, if it is a continuing project, describes the progress to date. It should include information on whether matching funds are available and the amount, other funding sources for the project, and the estimated total cost of the project. Include additional attachments (up to 5) for photos of the project or other ancillary information that will help the BOD to evaluate the project. Include as the last attachment a copy of your IRS 501(c)(3) determination letter if you are so equipped.

The submission should be mailed to arrive at the South Florida Railway Museum address (South Florida Railway Museum  
1300 W. Hillsboro Blvd.  
Deerfield Beach, FL 33442

or email to [SFRM.ORG](mailto:SFRM.ORG) no earlier than August 1 and no later than September 30 of the application year.

Any Clubs having a meet, an open house or some other activity please contact us so we can include your event in our publications.

Send events to: [nmra\\_SunshineRegionMail@yahoo.com](mailto:nmra_SunshineRegionMail@yahoo.com)

*The Telegraph Key is an Official Publication of the NMRA Sunshine Region, Inc.*

**All material in this publication, except where noted, is Copyright © 2023 NMRA Sunshine Region, Inc. and may NOT be reproduced without the express written permission from the publisher. Trademarks, servicemarks, etc., where used, are the property of their owners. All Rights reserved.**

**You are receiving this email because you opted in when becoming an NMRA member.**

**Our mailing address is :**

NMRA Sunshine Region, Inc.

4621 Bexley Village Dr

Land O Lakes, FL 34638

