

# The Telegraph Key

An NMRA Sunshine Region Monthly Publication

December 2023



**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](http://WWW.NMRA SunshineRegion.org)



**Happy Holidays in 2023!**



## Contents

Editor's Message.....	3
The Mail Car .....	3
President's Message .....	5
Vice President's Message .....	6
Treasurer's Message.....	7
Achievement Program .....	9
Northern Division.....	9
Eastern Division.....	11
Western Division .....	11
Southern Division.....	13
SSR 2023 Convention Wrap Up.....	134

## Sunshine Region Officials

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

## Editor's Message



As we ease into this last month of 2023, I find myself in the familiar position of service to the membership of the Sunshine Region. A few years back, I served as SSR Treasurer, then SSR Vice President, I revived the SSR website, and I re-established this SSR Telegraph Key monthly email. I have always believed that the good you get out of something is due to the good you put into it. I will try my best to deliver a quality, meaningful email to all of you. I've changed a few small things in the design of this publication, I hope they add to your reading enjoyment – you can let me know what you think.

Throughout the last 40(!) years or so, I've pretty much been a Model Railroad *collector* since it seemed all I did was buy stuff instead of build stuff. Some of you may find yourselves in similar situations. Who knows why I didn't get going at some point? It could be because I had seen all the fantastic modeling from others and had a fear of failure – the fear of failing to deliver something at a level of quality that I saw from others.

My wife summed it up for me: "You can't get better at modeling if you never start modeling". Pretty simple concept, right? Well, sometimes someone needs to point out the simple stuff to me.

If you find yourself hesitating to start something, try to keep in mind that everyone has different skillsets, different abilities, eyesight, hand coordination, and different funding. My eyesight has certainly gotten worse during the last few decades; and where did these shaky hands come from? Well, we do what we can do.

So, I've started. It's satisfying to do some research, decide on rolling stock, try out different track plans, and try to come up with a layout that I find cohesive and believable. I'll see where I get.

I want to wish everyone of you a Happy December, whatever Holiday you observe. Treat yourselves good, treat your family and friends good, and enjoy this time of the year. I look forward to seeing many of you in 2024.

**Mark Lewalski**

**Editor, Telegraph Key**



## The Mail Car



Photo courtesy of Smithsonian National Postal Museum

Since this is my first TK issue, I have no current mailbag to pull comments, questions, or suggestions for discussion here.

Also, our previous Telegraph Key editor, Glenn, tells me that the survey results are still in work and should be available to post in the January edition.

Please email me at [vwtrainsailor@gmail.com](mailto:vwtrainsailor@gmail.com) with any comments, questions or suggestions. I look forward to hearing from you.

**Mark Lewalski**

**Editor, Telegraph Key**

**Big Bend Model Railroad Association**

**T-TRAK**  
NHO Scale Modular Railroading

**2 day Show!**  
**Sat & Sun**

**T-TRAK-Z**  
Z-Scale Modular Railroading

**33rd Annual**  
**Tallahassee Model Railroad Show and Sale**

**June 22nd & 23rd 2024 at the North Florida Fairgrounds**

**Featured Vendors:**

- MID-CRUISE MODELS
- HOTWAX MODELS
- Rail Scene Models
- Tucker's Train Supply
- Notify Me!!

## President's Message



I hope everyone had a great Thanksgiving. It is always nice to get together with family and friends and take time to reflect back on all the things you accomplished this year and the things that will need to be put off till next year.

The Region faced a lot of challenges this year, where we had several board members resign, new members came on board to fill those vacancies, and we had two members on the board switch positions. With all that said, our new SSR Board has been working together with fresh new ideas and positive changes towards making the SSR a successful Region.

I want to thank all the people who made the 2023 SSR Convention in Plant City a success, that included great clinics, good food, a trip to Brightline, and a visit by our NMRA President, Gordy Robinson MMR, and NMRA Vice President Rick Coble.

While Gordy and Rick were visiting, a meeting was held to discuss issues within the organization, both at the local level and at the national level, and in the coming year, you should see changes in both areas.

One of the first changes for next year, will be the Journal Box going digital! This will save the Region postage/printing costs, and will allow us to have a larger edition at basically no cost to the Region. Going digital will allow the Journal Box to go to all SSR members for free. So, if you have any modeling articles, or would like to write an article, you can submit them to our new Journal Box Editor, Bob Leonard, (email- [LeonardStrait@Gmail.com](mailto:LeonardStrait@Gmail.com) Cell- (954) 801-1961). Any article pertaining to model railroading will be accepted. The Journal Box is published quarterly and the FIRST digital Journal Box will be the Spring 2024 issue. *Just a note:* In 2024, We will be starting to send refunds to all those who paid for printed subscriptions.

Also, another positive change that has been made, is the new look and new format to the Telegraph Key, which is the official monthly publication of the Sunshine Region. The Telegraph Key has Information about division workshops, our Region convention, the National conventions, and Railroad activities that will be happening in and around the Sunshine Region. When an item(s) is very important, you will receive an "Extra Edition" of the Telegraph key.

With Christmas just around the corner, I hope you have sent your wish list to Santa! This is my favorite time of the year, spending time with family and friends, getting all the great food and sweet treats. Just let your belt out a notch or two, you can always diet next year! Benita and I want to wish all our SSR members a Happy Holiday Season, Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year!

**Gene Jameson**

**President**



*Fun, Friends, Trains*

4042 Deltona Blvd.  
Spring Hill, FL 34606  
**352-684-2484**

Email: [dana@danarailroadsupply.com](mailto:dana@danarailroadsupply.com)  
Web Site: [danarailroadsupply.com](http://danarailroadsupply.com)

**TRAIN SETS • KITS • PARTS • DECALS • DIGITRAX  
PAINTS • BOOKS • REPAIRS • LIONEL • SHIP & AIRPLANE MODELS**

## Vice President's Message



Wow, it is December already!! Time certainly flies when you are engaged and active. I feel like this past year was on a fast clock!

So much has been happening on the National and Regional fronts that getting it all in here will be hard. The board has taken a fresh look at how we engage our membership and what we as a Region can proactively encourage to bring a quality NMRA experience. Members who do not have e-mails listed will be contacted to ensure that they can receive our monthly Telegraph Key and quarterly Journal Box. We want everyone to get the news from around the region and see the fantastic content. If you receive a call from your Division Superintendent, he/she is working to clean up our Membership list and ensure your data is accurate. If you have a fellow SSR member that you know has not received the Telegraph Key, get the word out that we are proactively correcting data and tell them to contact their Division Superintendent to update their information or you can contact the NMRA HQ at (423) 892-2846 and they will update it on the National Roster and we will receive an update.

Look for more Division meets every quarter; some will be In-Person meets, and some may be virtual but we want to fellowship and engage with our membership. Some regions are large and dispersed so look for more than one in-person meeting. Please attend the Virtual Meets as they arise! Some people cannot travel, so a virtual meet is perfect for them and they want to fellowship as well!

What are you looking for in 2024? What would you like to see from your leadership? We are listening, and we want you to help us better understand your expectations. You can e-mail any of the Board members or your Superintendents and it will all get discussed.

**Vice President's Message continued...**

Last but not least; The Board will hold an in-person Board meeting at Prototype Rails in January. This is another fantastic way to get to know one another, fellowship, attend Clinics, and engage manufacturers and vendors. Don't miss out. Jan 4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> 2024 at the Cocoa Beach Hilton.

Until next month.

**Andy Zimmerman**

**Vice President**

## Treasurer's Message



I've heard a number of folks are questioning why we are eliminating the print edition of the Journal Box. The answer is actually pretty simple. We want to deliver more information, how to's, pictures and advertising but are severely limited to a 16 page format. It's also getting more expensive to produce the Journal Box. The Fall 2023 issue cost us approximately \$475 to print and mail but our subscription base is at approximately 180. Every subscriber pays 12 dollars for 4 issues or \$3.00 per issue.  $180 \times 3 = 540$ .  $\$540 - \$475 = \$65$ . Yes, our profit is \$65 dollars per issue. Not a lot to jump for joy over.

The options before the board were to either raise the price for the subscription or continue to accept a 16 page limit. Neither of these options were acceptable to us. We all agreed we wanted a quarterly magazine that offered **ALL** members the opportunity to read, learn, and engage not just the few subscribers. We also wanted more content, larger pictures, and not to be limited to 16 pages. The only solution was to go to a digital edition as it has no page limit, gives us the ability to include more pictures/larger pictures, and more depth/richer content. We looked at what other regions were doing. Many had already switched to digital formats. The Lonestar Region's quarterly publication exceeds 70 pages!!! I hope we can get there too!!

Going digital is a solid business decision and I know we all would like to have a magazine to hold in our hands and flip through pages but let's be honest, we see normal magazines leaving the print world and going digital. It is the way of the future whether we like it or not. Let's not despair, we will all be able to download the Journal Box from the website as we do for the Telegraph Key. If you want it printed, I'm betting you can print it at home for a nickel a page, moreover you can print just the pages you want saving even more – certainly cheaper than the three dollars you're paying now and you can have the same experience.

So, let's sum things up:

**BENEFITS:**

- Free to all members
- Reduces membership costs and increases value
- Ability to print or save just the articles you want

**Treasurer's Message continued...**

- Ability to save the entire Journal Box locally
- Ability to 'search' articles
- Unlimited pages
- More content
- Ability to print at home cheaper (60 pages times .05 = \$3.00)
- Larger pictures – downloadable and ability to zoom in/out
- Able to sell unlimited number of advertisements

**NEGATIVES:**

- Not printed and mailed to me
- I have to print it myself
- I might not have a printer (maybe a fellow modeler can help here)
- Limited advertisements due to page limitations/additional costs
- Additional costs to us when mailing falls below 200 copies

I'm sure some of you can come up with additional benefits and negatives but I think if everyone is honest with themselves you will agree, this is in the best interest of the region. We have already sold a half dozen advertisements, which only helps the region and allows us to do more. Changes are afoot!

**REFUNDS**

We understand some of you have subscriptions that expire in 2024 or 2025. We will be emailing each and every subscriber with the expiration date we have on file for you and your refund amount due.

Refunds will be processed at 1 (one) dollar per month starting with Jan 2024. So, if your subscription ends in Jan 2024, you will be due a one dollar refund. If your subscription expires in Feb 2025, you will be due a refund of fourteen dollars.

Lastly, if you would prefer to donate your refund to the region you can respond to the email sent to you informing us you would like to donate your refund. If we do not hear from you, your refund will be processed, and a check mailed to you in the first quarter of 2024.

I welcome any comments/concerns so please email me. If you have a question, you can bet someone else has the same or similar question. Questions and answers will be posted in the January 2024 Telegraph Key.

**Glenn Kopriva**

**Treasurer**

---



## Achievement Program



For November, we had one AP Award and one Golden Spike Award.

The AP for Author went to **Dr. Marty Megregian, MMR**. He is from Merritt Island in our Eastern Division. The Golden Spike went to **Steve Cook**. He is from North Fort Myers in our Western Division.

I still have not heard anything about the new way we will be doing Merit Judging in the near future, as we have a mandate from National to make changes due to some things that have happened in the past to our program. Once the list of changes is complete, we will post it here and ultimately on the website. So, all the Divisional AP Chair personnel keep doing the AP work as we have in the past and let's get out there and shake the bushes to see if we can come up with some more awards in the near future. That is all I have for this time, and I wish everyone of you a Happy Holiday season.

**Ken Hoot**

**Achievement Program Chair**

### Northern Division



**Big Bend Model Railroad Association Senior Center Operations** – Members of the SSR Northern Division and the BBMRA will be displaying trains at the Tallahassee Senior Center **December 14, 6:30 to 8 p.m.** For the third consecutive year, the Big Bend Model Railroad Association will operate trains in a special holiday event at the Tallahassee Senior Center for seniors, grandparents, and their grandchildren. The operating session is from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. on Thursday, December 14. Set-up begins at 4:30 p.m. We have the entire auditorium on the second floor and will be bringing several small layouts - two O Gauge layouts, Walt Disney, and Thomas the Tank Engine, plus, an HO T-Trak layout and Neal Meadows' N Scale Holiday layout. There may be other layouts as well; we have plenty of room.

**Northern Division SSR Member Sam Miller** – Will be hosting the Woodgate Neighborhood Holiday Trains, Saturday, December 9, 1:30 to 3:30 p.m.: Sam along with his regular the Sunday Group will host outdoor trains open house for the Woodgate Neighborhood at Sam's home, 3008. Stillwood Court, Tallahassee, 32308; on Saturday, December 9, from 2 to 4 p.m., Sam's garage Lionel layout will be full of holiday carnival rides and lights. Marc Beshera will set up a Lego train. A smaller HO layout will be on display in the driveway, with HO and On30 trains. NMRA and BBMRA members are encouraged to join in the fun.

**Veterans Memorial Railroad Polar Express 2023** – From the VMRR Internet site: The Christmas Polar Express will be operating full steam ahead at Veterans Memorial Park in Bristol beginning December 1 and with added after-Christmas dates. Until December, the operating schedule is limited to the second Saturday of each month and special reservations. The Christmas "Polar Bear Express," is an amazing ride over one mile of track around the park to view thousands of lights and life-size

### **Northern Division continued...**

scenes, including Santa's Village, Polar Bear Mountain, an extensive Frozen scene, Western Town, and other scenes. This unique train ride is designed to delight all ages." VMRR Polar Express: Operating sessions for the Polar Express are scheduled for 7 p.m. to 10 p.m., Eastern, on 14 nights. In December. Many trips will be pulled by the Crown, a wonderful steamer. The dates are December 1,2,8,9,10,14,15,16,17,19,20,21,22,27!!!

The rides are about 25 minutes long around Veterans Memorial Park to and from Tom Keenan Station. For additional information, go to <https://www.veteransmemorialrailroad.org> or call: (850) 643-6646.

**Don't Forget the NMRA monthly SSR Meet and Greet** – Instead of the monthly Sunday "Meet and Greet" event in Jacksonville, we now run trains every Sunday, and anyone is welcome to visit. Sunday Run sessions are at the FCMRS club at 1414 Millcoe Road, Jacksonville, FL. The contact person for the club has changed from Stu Shef to John Piselli @ 904-993-0225

[jpmickey@att.net](mailto:jpmickey@att.net) or [fcMrs46@gmail.com](mailto:fcMrs46@gmail.com)

**Keep on the lookout for Northern Division Virtual Clinics** – Now that the very successful SSR Regional convention is in the rear view mirror and we have ramped up our member outreach we are lining up our next set of quarterly Northern Division Clinics, which will include DCC, Model railroad manufacturers, and MMRs from across the US and Canada, and providing quality Clinics. Some will be in person and some will be virtual. Members or previous members are all encouraged to attend. If you are in the Northern Division, look at your e-mail for Links. If not, send your e-mail to [photobob321@gmail.com](mailto:photobob321@gmail.com), and we will get you added to the distribution list so you will get notified as we schedule them. If there is a specific area you would like us to focus on, please email me!!

**Railfest 2023 was unfortunately cancelled** – But thankfully it has been rescheduled for next spring as the new **Pensacola Spring Railfest**. The 2024 Railfest will be May 18-19, 2024. In 2026, this show will be held during the last weekend in April. A scheduling error with the Escambia County Fairgrounds forced the cancellation. While technically, it is in the Southeastern Region (SER), Pensacola Model Railroad Club (PMRC), will be hosting Railfest at the Pensacola Interstate Fairgrounds. Several SSR Northern Division members will be running Trains on T-TRAK layouts at this event! This is going to be a great show. If you are in the Panhandle of FL or in the area, be sure to stop in and check it out. Bring a train and run with us!

**Robert Feuerstein**

**Northern Division Superintendent**

---

## Eastern Division



No update for November.

**Benita Jameson**

**Eastern Division Superintendent**

---

## Western Division



The next upcoming event is the Prototype Rails meet in Cocoa Beach on January 4-6, 2024. This is one of the best prototype modeling meets of the year with almost 100 clinics, 1000 models on display, modular railroads, manufacturer representatives and more. Info at <https://www.prototype Rails.com/>

The Western Division will host several one day workshops in 2024. These are held in conjunction with local model railroad clubs and rotate around the division. A typical workshop includes 4 clinics and a tour or operating session at the host club. Modelers are encouraged to bring modeling projects to display and AP judging is available on request. Admission is usually around \$20 and includes lunch. Watch this space for dates and locations. If your club is interested in hosting a workshop, please contact me directly.

If you or your club have any news or events to share, please let me know so I can share it with the Western Division members.

**Don Wetmore**

**Western Division Superintendent**

---



**PENSACOLA'S PREMIER HOBBY TRAIN STORE & REPAIR CENTER**

We are a Lionel Authorized Value-Added Dealer!

Decoders Installed & Programming Services for Lionel Legacy, ESU LokSound, SoundTraxx, MTH DCS, Digitrax & TCS

Some of the lines we carry:

Kato HO & N, Peco HO & N, Micro-Trains, Kadee, Lionel, Woodland Scenics, Digitrax Decoders & Acc., SoundTraxx Decoders, TCS Decoders, ESU Decoders, Rokuhan Z

Remember do not to wait until December to check your Christmas Trains for repairs or cleaning!

**Tucker's Train Supply**

**Pensacola, FL**

**[www.TuckersTrainSupply.com](http://www.TuckersTrainSupply.com)**

**(850) 723-5390**

## Southern Division



Tis the season!

Another year has gone by all too soon, a far cry from 70 years ago when my days took forever! But at least I am still around and have the opportunity to think back that far, although CRS is setting in! So, what is up in the Southern Div., well there is a lot of preparations for the holidays, all four organizations down here in the south are gearing up for the holidays, some more than others. Three have plans and one is recovering. The Palm Beach group, ECHOES, and the Florida Citrus are in preparation. Yes, there is contact with Palm Beach, what has it been, months, no, maybe years since communication, more on that later!

But first, one thing I did not mention in the last report was the outcome of the conventions Caboose Challenge and the standings of the competition. The winner is a member of our division and a member of the South Florida Railway Museum. Alan Chesler took 1<sup>st</sup> place in the competition and for his efforts won a free pass and free meal to the convention next year. So, congratulations to him and to all the entrants to the competition, I found the challenge a good tool to spur modeling innovation and improve skills.

So, to the news from the Palm Beach Model Railroaders! Talking to their president Paul Mathis, he informed me of mechanical and scenic progress made. They have been working on three very visual specific areas of the layout of which will be 80 to 90% completed by the time the fairgrounds open for the annual show. So, those annual attendees of the fair will be impressed, the fair and the layout will be open January 12<sup>th</sup> to the 28<sup>th</sup>, only 40 some days away. By the way, the fairgrounds are located on Southern Blvd, you can't miss it, just keep going west from I 95, it's on the right. I asked Paul about their hours, he told me Tuesdays and Wednesdays are when they meet, but you must contact one of the members if you wish to visit. They still have the gate issue and the guard to contend with, nothing insurmountable, just a hiccup.

Coming south from Palm Beach into Broward is the SFRM in Deerfield Beach, they just wrapped up their 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Train Show the weekend before turkey day. They say it was successful and looking forward to next year's show, presently same place, same time. This is the group that I said was recovering, nothing for the month of December for them. Check out their web page [sfrm.org](http://sfrm.org) and their Facebook page, something may change.

Further south in Broward, the Florida Citrus group is scheduled for exhibiting at the Southwest Regional Library at 16835 Sheridan St, Pembroke Pines. On display will be "G", "O", "HO", and "N" scale layouts, they are set up at the library from November 29<sup>th</sup> to January 13<sup>th</sup>. They are tied to the operating hours of the library, which are from 12:00 PM to 4:00 PM Monday through Thursday and on Saturday. Celebrate the Christmas / New Year holidays with them, check out their website, [fcmts.org](http://fcmts.org).

Now into Dade, in speaking with Rick Diaz, the ECHOES will be running their annual holiday train exhibit at Pinecrest Gardens (the old Parrot Jungle) located at 11000 Red Road (57<sup>th</sup> Ave) Pinecrest (Miami), FL 33156. That is a lot of brackets for an address.

Anyway, their operating hours are from 6:00 PM to 9:00 PM on the nights of December 9, 10, 14<sup>th</sup> through the 17<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup> through the 23<sup>rd</sup>, and from the 27<sup>th</sup> to the 30<sup>th</sup> and in January from the 4<sup>th</sup> to the 6<sup>th</sup>. The display will be in the Hibiscus Room (1<sup>st</sup> room on the left as you enter the main entrance. Bring the kids and have a great time. As in the past the group is very active

**Southern Division continued...**

with visitors and encourages those visitors to run trains with them. They have a signup sheet attached to their Facebook page that James McVea has organized. They tell the public to feel free to sign up for any days they would like to join and run trains.

On another note, to all southern members, I will be contacting you to see what your thoughts are of the division and the region. So, during the time frame of when you receive this and the next Telegraph Key is published, hopefully we will have talked. Nothing drastic, no gloom and doom, just your thoughts.

That is it for this year! Hopefully all of your holiday season will be well spent and well appreciated. That you find that treasure you have wanted for so long under the tree, or at least in the mailbox. I will talk to you again in January.

Until next month, Model 60!

**Robert Leonard**

**Southern Division Superintendent**

---

## **Sunshine Region 2023 Convention Wrap Up**

Happy Holidays, Merry Christmas, and Happy New Year to all.

We are almost through 2023 and it had proved to be a challenging year, for the Region, to say the least. There were some issues that took place over the summer, but we were able to get them worked out and the Region is now moving in a new direction with new and improved ideas.

In October, we had our 2023 SSR High Speed Rail Convention in Plant City and I would say it was a big success. We had 72 attendees and 61 of them attended our banquet on Saturday night. Also included were Clinics, the Train Show, and a trip to Orlando to see the newest Brightline train maintenance facility that had just opened in September. That was arranged by Katie Mitzner, Brightline Director of Public Affairs.

I want to take this time to say Thanks to all those individuals that volunteered to give up their weekend to make our Convention a success. We had a few hiccups that included 5 clinicians and our banquet guest speaker who had to cancel on short notice due to unforeseen circumstances. We were lucky enough to have some of our clinicians step up to cover the canceled clinics in order for us to still have a full clinic schedule and Austin Strenecky, Vice President of Florida East Coast Railway Society, filled in for our banquet guest speaker. Austin gave a great presentation with drone footage on the "Building of Brightline" which was very interesting and informative. We can't thank him enough for making time to speak at our banquet on such short notice.

We also had the privilege to have at our convention NMRA President, Gordy Robinson (MMR), who flew in from Scotland, and NMRA Vice President, Rick Coble, who flew in from Atlanta. Gordy presented a clinic "Meet the NMRA President", he presented AP Awards, and also spoke at our banquet.

**2023 Convention Wrap Up continued...**

I also want to take the time to thank the 11 employees of NY Life Insurance, who volunteered to come on Saturday to help at the Train Show, Registration Desk, and our Banquet. These men and women took time from their weekend off day to volunteer their services which helped make our convention run smooth.

I don't want to leave out our clinicians who also volunteer their time. Here is the list of clinicians that were at our convention: Rich Mahaney (who actually ran 12 clinics), Benita Jameson, Robert Leonard, Greg Garbacz, Ken Hoot, David Leider (MMR), Glenn Kopriva, Bruce Lauerman, Don Wetmore, Rich Paul, Jim Wiese, Bob Miller, Gene Jameson, Ray Hazen, Tom Wilson, Andy Zimmerman, Gilbert Thomas, Jr., John Crellin, and Gordy Robinson (MMR). If you see any of our clinicians, thank them for devoting their time to help at our conventions every year.

I know I have thanked a lot of people, but all these people took the time out of their personal lives volunteering to help us put on a successful convention and without them, we could not have had a weekend of fellowship and comradery.

We appreciate all our volunteers for their time, Thanks.

**Jeff "Ski" Guzowski**

**Director at Large**

## South Florida Railway Museum

**Beginning January 2024**

**New Hours**

**The museum will be open from 11 AM to 4 PM on the  
2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of the month**

**Dates**

**01-13, 02-10, 03-09, 04-13, 05-10, 06-08, 07-13,  
08-10, 09-14, 10-12, 11-09, 12-14**

Follow us on our website [www.sfrm.org](http://www.sfrm.org) and our  
Facebook page

1300 W. Hillsboro Blvd. Deerfield Beach, FL  
(The south end of the AMTRAK station in Deerfield Beach)



Home of the

**South Farmington  
Rail & Mule RR**



**E.C.H.O.E.S** is a modular model railroad club located in Miami-Dade, Florida, dedicated to building and displaying our HO scale model railroad layout. Our purpose is to enjoy and promote the hobby of model railroading and preserve the history of railroading in South Florida. The club was started in the summer of 1985, with the goal of presenting a HO scale modular model railroad layout for display at “The Harvest Festival”. Throughout the years, the layout has been displayed at regional conventions, four NMRA National Train Shows (Atlanta twice, Ft. Lauderdale, FL and Orlando), and other events in Miami Dade and Broward counties. We do running/operating sessions several times a year and welcome guests to join us. Membership is open and we welcome anyone who shares an interest and passion for Model railroading.

For more information, please contact:

<b>Rick Diaz</b>	rickdiaz@att.net	305 496 9266
<b>Tracey Sanders</b>	tassailor@mac.com	786 514 5667
<b>Herb Ford</b>	ehf640@gmail.com	786 375 1424





[www.RobsHobbyWorld.com](http://www.RobsHobbyWorld.com)

[Robshobbyworld@msn.com](mailto:Robshobbyworld@msn.com)

Hours: Monday-Friday  
10-530, Saturday 9-4

## Rob's Hobby World

R/C Planes, Cars and Boats ~ Trains ~ Plastic Models ~ Tools,  
Paints and Accessoires

8585 SW Hwy 200  
unit 14  
Ocala, FL 34481

352-854-2799



Citrus Model Railroad Club, Inverness, FL

# ..America's Railroad Embroiderer

## Serving the Railroad Industry and Hobbyists Since 1985

**We Have The Largest Selection Of Embroidered Products Anywhere!**

**APRONS**

Embroidered Aprons

**BILFOLDS**

Embroidered Men's Billfolds

**CAPS-HATS**

Embroidered Caps  
Dining Car Chef's Hats  
Embroidered Engineer's Caps

**SHIRTS**

Embroidered Denim Shirts  
Embroidered Firefighter Work Shirts  
Embroidered Oxford Shirts  
Embroidered Polo Style Shirts  
Embroidered Sweatshirts  
Embroidered T-Shirts  
American Flag Embroidered Shirts

**JACKETS**

Embroidered Jackets

**PANTS - SHORTS**

Embroidered Men's Walking Shorts

**TOTES - BAGS - BACKPACKS**

Embroidered Cloth Attaché Cases  
Embroidered Tote Bags  
Embroidered Shaving / Camera Bags

**TOWELS - SEAT COVERS**

Embroidered Toilet Seat Covers  
Embroidered Heavy Cotton Terry Towels  
Embroidered Heavy Cotton Terry Golf Towels

**UNDERGARMENTS**

Embroidered Underwear

**TIES**

Railroad Embroidered Ties

**Nobody Beats Our Quality!**



**Order NOW! www.jelsma.com • 904.716.0436**

*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

