

OFFICIAL TIMETABLE #8



SUNSHINE
REGION

SUNSHINE REGION 2026 CONVENTION



OCTOBER 15 - 17, 2026



Hilton Ocala

3600 SW 36th Ave Ocala, Florida



Rob's Hobby World

8585 SW State Road 200, Ocala, FL 34481

352-854-2799

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Welcome to the 2026 Iron Horse Convention!

Dear Friends and Fellow Model Railroaders,

On behalf of the NMRA Sunshine Region, it is my pleasure to welcome you to Ocala and the **2026 Iron Horse Convention!**

Last year's Iron Horse Convention was an outstanding success and one of the highlights of our year. We welcomed a **record number of Sunshine Region members**, demonstrating the enthusiasm, energy, and fellowship that continue to make our Region strong. Seeing so many members come together to learn, share, reconnect with old friends, and make new ones was a tremendous reminder of what the NMRA and the Sunshine Region are all about.

This year, we want to build on that success and make Iron Horse even better!

There is something special about bringing model railroaders together. We may model different scales, different eras, different railroads, and approach the hobby in very different ways, but we share the same enthusiasm for creating, learning, and, of course, running trains. Modular model railroading is a wonderful example of that shared spirit, bringing individual modelers and clubs together to create expansive layouts, demonstrate different modeling techniques, and enjoy the teamwork that makes operating a large, interconnected railroad possible. The Iron Horse Convention gives us an opportunity to celebrate all of that while spending time with the people who make this hobby so enjoyable.

The Sunshine Region has experienced an exciting year. Across Florida, our members continue to build outstanding layouts, develop new techniques, earn Achievement Program certificates, organize clubs and events, and introduce others to model railroading. We have also worked to strengthen our Region and create more opportunities for members to participate, communicate, and enjoy everything the NMRA has to offer.

The Iron Horse Convention is an important part of that effort.

Over the next few days, I encourage you to take advantage of everything Iron Horse has to offer. Attend a clinic and learn something new. Visit the layouts and see what other modelers have created. Participate in the contests and Achievement Program activities. Talk with our clinicians, volunteers, and fellow members. Most importantly, introduce yourself to someone you do not already know.

Some of the best things we take home from a convention are not models or photographs. They are new ideas, new skills, and new friendships.

Model railroading has always been a hobby built on sharing knowledge. Someone taught each of us how to solder a feeder, weather a freight car, build scenery, program a decoder, or solve that electrical problem that had us scratching our heads. Conventions like Iron Horse give us the opportunity to continue that tradition. If you have experience, share it. If you are new to the hobby, ask questions. There is always something more to learn, and every one of us has something we can contribute.

We should also remember that the future of model railroading depends upon our willingness to welcome the next modeler. Whether someone has been an NMRA member for forty years, just joined last month, or is attending an NMRA convention for the very first time, they should leave Iron Horse feeling that they are part of our community.

That is what the Sunshine Region should be about: **Modeling, Education, Fellowship, and Community.**

I want to thank everyone who worked behind the scenes to make this convention possible. Events like Iron Horse require countless hours of planning and the dedication of volunteers who believe strongly enough in our hobby to give their time and talents to others. Please take a moment during the convention to thank them.

And thank **you** for being here. Your participation is what turns a schedule of clinics, layouts, and activities into a convention.

Enjoy the trains. Learn something new. Share what you know. Reconnect with old friends and make a few new ones.

Welcome to Ocala, welcome to the Sunshine Region, and welcome aboard the 2026 Iron Horse Convention!

Have a fantastic convention!

Andy J. Zimmerman

ATCS(AW), USN Ret.

President

NMRA Sunshine Region



Andy J. Zimmerman

ATCS AW USN Ret. and SSR President

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*Clinics are ordered by **Clinic NAME**

CONVENTION NOTIFICATIONS

Please note due to our new location **we will not be staffing an information space** for questions/beverages etc. Instead, we will stick to published registration times and will ask that you **TEXT** your questions or registration needs to 813-482-4274. Your question will be answered via text as soon as possible **and your registration/raffle needs will happen between clinics.** This allows all our members to enjoy the convention clinics.

Raffle tickets will be on sale at the same prices as last year, \$10 for ten raffle tickets (1 card of 10 tickets) or 3 cards for \$25. You must be present at the banquet to win (or have someone you trust hold onto your raffle tickets!). Place your Door Prize ticket in the Master Draw Box for a special drawing at the Banquet.



Convention Schedule at a Glance

Thursday

4 – 5:30pm	Registration and Raffle Open—
5 – 7pm	Dinner on your own
7 –10pm	Social Time poolside/bar area

Friday

7:30am-8:15	Registration and Raffle Open—
8:15am	Clinics Start
9:00am	Celebration of Model's Registration & Check- in
11:45—1:00pm	Closed for Lunch
1:30pm	Celebration of Model's Open
1:00 pm	Clinics Start
5:00—7:30pm	Dinner Break
8:00—9:00pm	Evening Clinics

Saturday

7:30am-8:15	Registration and Raffle Open—
8:15am	Clinics Start
10:00am	Celebration of Models Registration Closed
10:30am	Celebration of Models Judging Starts—no viewing
11:45—1:00pm	Closed for Lunch
1:00 pm	Clinics Start
6:00—10:30pm	Banquet—Santa Anita & Delmar Dinner served approx. 6:30— <u>don't forget your wrist band.</u>
10:30pm	After banquet Fellowship (Bar/Lounge)

Sunday

9-10am	Membership MTG —Santa Anita & Delmar Room
10-11:30am	Closed Board MTG—Santa Anita & Delmar Room

Safe trip home

Ocala Hilton Floorplan

REGISTRATION/RAFFLE DESK in front of Classrooms (Blue box)

Belmont: Classroom

Saratoga: Classroom

Keeneland: Classroom

Aqueduct: Contest/Judging room

Pimlico: Classroom

Arlington, Monmouth and Laurel: Op Session and Activities

Santa Anita & Delmar: Banquet and Sunday Meeting

ARTHUR'S RESTAURANT

SARATOGA

BELMONT

KEENELAND

AQUEDUCT

PIMLICO

CHURCHILL BALLROOM

ARLINGTON

MONMOUTH

LAUREL

SANTA ANITA

DEL MAR

PHONES

COAT ROOM

CHURCHILL FOYER

2026 SSR OCALA CONVENTION CLINICS

1. **3D Printing for Model Railroaders: A Gentle Introduction for Beginners**

Clinician: Scott Peal

This clinic is designed for model railroaders who have little or no experience with 3D printing and want to learn how it can enhance their hobby. We'll walk through the basics in plain, non-technical language—what a 3D printer is, how it works, and how you can use it to create simple, useful parts for your layout. You'll see real examples, learn what equipment is truly needed (and what isn't), and discover how easy it can be to get started. By the end of the clinic, attendees will understand the full process from idea to finished model and will feel confident exploring 3D printing on their own.

2. **An Introduction to Layout Command Control**

Clinician: Rick Lull

This clinic will introduce LCC, present common use cases, and demonstrate some basic functionality that attendees can then replicate on their layouts. This clinic is for all skillsets and LCC knowledge levels.

3. **Basic JMRI Operations with NO Paper!**

Clinician: M Steve Todd

Put away the car cards and switch lists! Learn how to use JMRI Operations to manage cars, routes, trains, pickups, and set outs right from your smartphone or tablet.

This practical clinic takes you from basic setup to running trains using JMRI's Conductor interface—with no paper required. Perfect for anyone wanting to add realistic operations to their layout without the paperwork.

4. **Bridges – How do we Bridge the Gap?**

Clinician: Bob Leonard

There are seven types of bridges, which ones can a railroad modeler use prototypically? The clinic covers the use of bridge supports, the types and applications, era and timeframe. It talks to the types of bridges and who manufactures the different types.

5. Car Forwarding with the Micro Mark Car Card System

Clinician: Jeff Hanke, MMR

This PowerPoint based clinic that will cover the complete set up of the car card and waybill system used to prototypically move freight cars over your model railroad. This will include filling out car cards, waybills and car request orders. The clinic will also cover modifications needed to make the system more complete. Finally, a brief overview of the Car Service Rules will be given to show the appropriate way to determine which empty car to choose for a given movement.

6. Creating a portable AIO DCC System

Clinician: Andy Zimmerman

When the world slowed down during COVID-19, model railroaders did not. In this engaging and thought-provoking clinic, Andy J. Zimmerman shares how isolation became a catalyst for creativity, innovation, and hands-on problem solving. Drawing directly from his personal experiences, this session explores how necessity truly became the mother of invention, fueled by creativity and grounded in technical knowledge.

Focusing on N-scale and T-TRAK modular railroading, Andy walks attendees through the evolution of an all-in-one DCC control system designed to eliminate complexity, reduce wiring clutter, and expand operational capability. From concept to execution, you will see how integrating technologies such as Raspberry Pi, JMRI, wireless throttles, and modular power management resulted in a compact, portable, and highly functional system.

This clinic is more than a technical walkthrough. It is a story of adaptation, ingenuity, and pushing beyond “the way we’ve always done it.” Whether you are a seasoned modeler or just getting started, you will leave with practical ideas, inspiration, and a renewed appreciation for what can be achieved when challenges are met with innovation.

What You'll Learn:

- How constraints can drive innovation in model railroading
- Designing a compact, all-in-one DCC and accessory control system
- Integrating JMRI, wireless control, and multi-zone power management
- Practical lessons learned from real-world deployment at train shows
- Ideas you can apply to your own layout or modular setup

Bottom Line: When necessity meets creativity, innovation follows—and this clinic shows exactly how.

7. **Creating Realistic Water**

Clinician: Tim Ellis

The clinic explains the use of using two-part epoxies, UV epoxies, UV adhesives, modeling paste and glue to create the base and texture (ripples / waves) of water scenes. From open water to rivers and streams, the clinic describes the methods to achieve and give your water a look of realism. It also covers coloring, from sky reflection on the ocean to muddy, brackish backwater.

8. **Designing Your Next Railroad**

Clinician: Mark Juett, MMR, NMRA Magazine Pulse DCC Columnist

There are many reasons that we may begin again, to build a new model RR, or move it. I will share some of my experiences over nine moves and reconstructing my model railroads. Choices in retaining the same scale and gauge or not. Choices in keeping the same prototype and era or not. Selections of modeling the same locations or not. What to retain, what to let go. What will get an operational RR more quickly. What was learned in past attempts. How to make the next RR better and how to make only new mistakes.

9. **Eastern Logging and Sawmill Clinic: Logging in the Blue Ridge Mountains—History and Modeling**

Clinician: Dean Smith, MMR

Travel back to the Blue Ridge Mountains circa 1925 and explore the Boone Fork Lumber Company and its accompanying facilities.

In this clinic, we will be looking at prototype logging practices in the area, focusing on the large sawmill complex at Shulls Mills, North Carolina, and how I modeled it on the ET&WNC-Vida Division Railroad.

The mill features board-by-board construction, a complete interior, and sound (from the early days before sound modules). The scene also includes a log pond created by damming a tributary of the Wautaga River with a log splash dam.

10. **From Ore to Finished Steel: Modeling the Steel Industry**

Clinician: Joe Grazulis

Explore the fascinating world of steel mills and the railroads that serve them. This clinic follows the steelmaking process from raw materials through the hot end, rolling and finishing, while examining the specialized railroad equipment and operations found both inside and outside the mill.

Learn how steelmaking has changed through the eras, how to select what portions of a mill to model, and how to realistically integrate steel-industry traffic and operations into a model railroad—even when space is limited.

11. **How I Create Removeable Flat Car Loads**

Clinician: Richard Paul

I am a big fan of operations and like to have open type cars with ability to arrive/depart with a load but also use same car in arrive/depart as an empty visually.

My method for creating a method for adapting various commercial & scratch built loads to be removable on a flatcar yet held on so it will not slide off during operation.

rivers, streams, and waterfalls. Fast-moving water can be an intimidating element for many modelers, but Dean will demystify the techniques needed to create realistic water features. From creating convincing rapids to cascading waterfalls, you'll learn methods to enhance the natural beauty of your layout. This clinic has been presented at regional and national NMRA conventions, National Narrow Gauge conventions, and on NMRAx, making it a must-see for anyone wanting to elevate their scenery skills. Don't miss out on this chance to master the art of water modeling!

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12. **How to Keep Your Track Clean: Mineral Spirits? Alcohol? Bright Boy? Some Do's and Don'ts**

Clinician: Mark Juett, MMR, NMRA Magazine Pulse DCC Columnist

Unless your locomotives are battery powered a.k.a power on board or dead rail you need good, reliable contact between the wheels and the rail. This clinic will give you a few steps to condition your rails to stay clean longer. It will also cover cleaning track and cleaning locomotive wheels. Reliable contact is essential to good operation.

13. **How to Model Florida Scenery/Trees**

Clinician: Bob Miller

Bob will show you how to model Florida trees, Cypress, Pine, and Palms. He will also be giving out a spiral handout on Florida Scenery.

14. **Layout Planning and Benchwork Construction**

Clinician: Mark Ellis

This clinic describes an approach that can aid in the time it takes to create the benchwork for a layout. It outlines the different programs available and how, with some patience, the builder can utilize the software to solve problems.

15. **Making Molds, Could I, Would I, Should I?**

Clinician: Alan Chesler

The process of making a latex Mold of an original to copy and make multiple copies.

Follow the process, logic, value, and enjoyment of stepping out of comfort zone (again) to accomplish what you just thought was an amateur endeavor.

We will follow the steps, talk about time and cost, and expected results with satisfaction.

View and touch the products and create a shopping list

16. **Meet the President**

Clinician: NMRA President Gordy Robinson, MMR

Join NMRA President Gordy Robinson for an inside look at the NMRA today and tomorrow—new initiatives, future plans, and his perspective on where the organization is headed, and why it's important for every member to play a part in shaping its future.

17. **Modeling a Pulpwood Yard**

Clinician: Jeff Hanke, MMR

This PowerPoint based clinic will review the history of the industry, how it interacted with railroads and how to model a pulpwood yard, vehicles and loads. Actual examples will be passed around.

18. **Modeling Considerations for the 2000's Modeler**

Clinician: Gilbert Thomas Jr

The 2000's have arrived in the usual way. The transition era is long gone, and the railroads have gone from 140 class one railroads to just 7 class one railroads. Oh, make that 6 class one railroads. I believe this is the perfect time to be a model railroader! This clinic will review the ever-evolving landscape of US railroads, latest trends in railroad cars and locomotives the railroads are utilizing and upgrades in railroad operations and technology.

19. **Modeling the Pickle Industry**

Clinician: David Leider, MMR

Want a unique industry for your layout? Consider modeling the pickle industry. They are small, fit easily on a siding and you can use those pickle cars you got as a youngster. I will show the steps in making pickles and how they were transported with photos of salting stations and pickle cars. Did you know that there is a large pickle manufacturer in Palmetto Florida and Manatee County was the largest producer of pickles in Florida?

20. **Modeling Vehicles**

Clinician: Jeff Hanke, MMR

This PowerPoint based clinic will cover all aspects of modeling vehicles from available models, adding realism and creating an appropriate fleet. Creating custom decals will also be covered. The clinic will also cover the appropriate age, make-up and uses of vehicles to create the right feel on your layout.

21. **Operating Your Model Railroad**

Clinician: Don Wetmore

Have fun bringing your model railroad to life with realistic operations. We explore different options for Car Scheduling, Train Scheduling, and Dispatching on your model railroad. We also look at what you can do to help your operators understand your railroad and how it operates.

22. Operations on Their Levels - How Deep Do You Want to Go

Clinician: Mark Iannone

The clinic covers the depth of operations an operator wants to go. From the simple scenario of moving cars from point A to point B to multi train movements of freight and passenger consists and everything in between. How do you control this, TTTO, car cards, JMRI created switch lists, how many Set outs and Pick ups, or termed Locations and Destinations, it all comes with the question. How deep is too deep?

23. Pictorial History of the Building of their West Virginia Northern Railroad

Clinician: Gail Allen Komar, MMR

The West Virginia Northern was originally built in St. Petersburg by Ross & Gail Allen and was the cover article of the June 2005 Model Railroader titled "A Handcrafted Gem". After re-marrying, Gail moved the WVN to Tampa in 2007. This clinic is about how the WVN evolved into what it is today. The building of an addition for the WVN. Changes to the track plan, new overhead lighting & valances, photo backdrops, building coal mining facility, and other structures using historical data. Monthly operating sessions with call board, train orders, timetable, & signals.

24. Secrets of Integrated Signal Systems or How I Pay for Garden Mulch

Clinician: Timothy Maslyn

Exposing the secrets on how Integrated Signal Systems makes custom made signals in a step-to-step PowerPoint presentation.

25. Signals. How hard can they be?

Clinician: Timothy Maslyn

A compendium on signals. A sample of Who, What, Where, and When it becomes necessary to install signals on your layout.



The Western Bay Railroad is a 950 square ft On30 layout in Port St Lucie. We meet almost every Tuesday evening. We are looking for new members to join our group. There are OP sessions & scenery that we are still working on. If you're a modeler and serious about learning, give us a try! Go to our website or contact Al Sohl MMR als0622@yahoo.com

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FRIDAY 10/16/26**CLINIC SCHEDULE****BALLROOMS OPS/TRAINROOM**

LOCATON TIME	SARATOGA ROOM CLASSROOM	KEENELAND ROOM CLASSROOM	PIMIICO ROOM CLASSROOM	BELMONT ROOM RAFFLE ROOM	AQUADUCT ROOM CONTEST ROOM
8:15 AM To 9:15 AM Clinician	Meet the NMRA President Gordy Robinson MMR	Timetable & Train Order Robert Raymond	Bridges Bob Leonard	RAFFLE	CONTEST
9:30 AM To 10:30AM Clinician	Using DCC-EX M Steve Todd	Tuscarora Operations w/Working Yard Tower Robert Raymond	T-TRAK 101 Todd Slaughter		
10:45 AM To 11:45 AM Clinician	SoundTraxx: Demystifying Decoder Installation George Bogatiuk	Swayne Lumber Co. Northern California Paul Beckstrom	How to Model FL Scenery/Trees Bob Miller		
11:45 AM to 1:15 PM LUNCH BREAK					
1:15 PM To 2:15 PM Clinician	Designing Your Next Railroad Mark Juett MMR	Modeling the Pickle industry David Leider MMR	3D Printing for Model Railroaders Scott Peal	RAFFLE	CONTEST
2:30 PM To 3:30 PM Clinician	Why We Model: The Hidden Science Behind the Hobby Bernard Hellen	Making Molds, Could I, Would I, Should I Alan Chesler	SketchUp Audience Friendly Building Focused Scott Peal		
3:45 PM To 4:45 PM Clinician	Take Me to the River Again Dean Smith MMR	Layout Planning and Benchwork Construction Mark Ellis	Pictorial History of West Virginia Northern Railroad Gail Allen Komar MMR		
	1 Night Clinic Below	DINNER FROM 4:45PM TO 7PM - FOLLOWED BY A MEET & GREET IN THE LOBBY FROM 7PM TO 9:30PM			
FRI 8:00 PM to 9:00 PM Clinician	Weathering on a Small Scale Tim Ellis	OP SESSIONS/OPEN RUNNING - ROOM OPEN FROM 8:15AM TO 1030PM			

SATURDAY 10/17/26			CLINIC SCHEDULE		
BALLROOMS OPS/TRAINROOM					
LOCATON	SARATOGA ROOM	KEENELAND ROOM	PIMILICO ROOM	BELMONT ROOM	AQUADUCT ROOM
TIME	CLASSROOM	CLASSROOM	CLASSROOM	RAFFLE ROOM	CONTEST ROOM
8:15 AM To 9:15 AM	Basic JMRI Operations w/ No Paper	Modeling Pulpwood Yard	How I Create Removeable Flat Car Loads	RAFFLE	CONTEST
Clinician	M Steve Todd	Jeff Hanke MMR	Richard Paul		
9:30 AM To 10:30AM	Creating a Portable AIO DCC System	Modeling Vehicles	Secrets of Integrated Signal Systems		
Clinician	Andy Zimmerman	Jeff Hanke MMR	Timothy Maslyn		
10:45 AM To 11:45 AM	How to Keep Your Track Clean	Car Forwarding w/the Micro Mark Car Card System	Weed Control on the Railroads		
Clinician	Mark Juett MMR	Jeff Hanke MMR	David Leider MMR		
11:45 AM to 1:15 PM LUNCH BREAK					
1:15 PM To 2:15 PM	Eastern Logging & Sawmill Clinic	The Bicentennial & Semiquincentennial Locomotive	Operating Your Model Railroad	RAFFLE	CONTEST
Clinician	Dean Smith MMR	Gilbert Thomas Jr	Don Wetmore		
2:30 PM To 3:30 PM	From Ore to Finished Steel	Creaaing Realistic Water	Signals, How Hard Can They Be?		
Clinician	Joe Grazulis	Tim Ellis	Timothy Maslyn		
3:45 PM To 4:45 PM	An Introduction to Layout Command Control	Operations on Their Levels	Modeling Considerations for the 2000's Modeler		
Clinician	Rick Lull	Mark Iannone	Gilbert Thomas Jr		
6:00 PM DINNER BANQUET					
6pm -	Get to the Santa Anita / Delmar Room -- OPEN SEATING				
6:30	***** DO NOT FORGET YOUR WRIST BAND OR YOU'LL BE HUNGRY *****				
6:30-7:30	Dinner starts at 6:30				
7:30 - 8:30	The convention speaker, Chris Hogan, will talk about policing on the railroad.				
8:30 - 10:30	Awards and the RAFFLE				
10:30 to ???	Fellowship - Patio/bar area				
SUNDAY MORNING -- Santa Anita / Delmar Room					
9 am - 10am	SSR Annual Membership Meeting -- open to all members				
10-11:30	SSR Board Meeting - closed meeting, Board members only				

26. **SketchUP (Audience-Friendly, Building-Focused)**

Clinician: Scott Peal

This session shows model railroaders how to use SketchUp to create their own buildings, freight cars, passenger cars, and other larger layout items for 3D printing. No technical background is needed. We'll walk through two simple ways to get started: drawing your own model from photos or plans and converting an existing model you find online. You'll learn how to bring pictures into SketchUp, trace the shapes, break the model into printable sections, and plan how to paint and assemble the finished parts. By the end, you'll understand the full path from idea to printed model—whether you print at home or use a service.

27. **SoundTraxx: Demystifying Decoder Installation**

Clinician: George Bogatiuk

Description Pending

28. **Swayne Lumber Company Northern California**

Clinician: Paul Beckstrom

The Swayne Lumber Company operated a 60 mile 3' gauge logging railroad in Northern California from 1917-1940. It ran from Oroville CA into the Merrimac Forest (Plumas National Forest) and was powered by Shay and Heisler geared locomotives, several of which still exist and operate to this day. This clinic is presented by the co-author of the Swayne Lumber Company book published by Pacific Fast Mail in 1992, and presents the history and eventual migration of much of the equipment to the Michigan-California and West Side Lumber Companies. Also covered are some of the discoveries and stories pertaining to the writing of the book, and the equipment and infrastructure remaining today.

29. **T-TRAK 101- T-Trak**

Clinician: Todd Slaughter

T-TRAK modules are dioramas with sectional track, specifically Kato Unitrack, that snap together to create layouts from a simple circle to large complex layouts. The modules are designed to fit on tables. Layouts are easy to assemble and disassemble. The convenient size of the modules makes them easy to store on a shelf or in totes when not in use, or to transport. He is the founder of the Special Needs Model Railroad Association (SNMRA) as well as the Tampa T-TRAK club.

30. **Take Me to the River Again: Modeling mountain streams, rivers, and waterfalls**

Clinician: Dean Smith, MMR

Fast-flowing, clear streams, rivers, and waterfalls are part and parcel of the mountainous terrain shared by many of our favorite railroads. With their visible riverbeds, white water areas, and “see-thru” waterfalls, these cascading waterways can prove a challenge to effectively model. By utilizing a series of easy-to-follow techniques using natural materials and commonly available craft and hobby supplies, this clinic should give even the novice modeler the confidence to dive right in and create effective rivers and waterfalls. As an added bonus in a reprise of this popular clinic, we will also be taking a look at constructing a sawmill pond and log splash dam.

31. **The Bicentennial and Semiquincentennial Locomotive**

Clinician: Gilbert Thomas Jr.

This clinic is a review of the various paint schemes presented by the railroads celebrating our nation's 200th and 250th birthday. Gilbert will have models to display.

32. **Timetable & Train Order**

Clinician: Robert Raymond

Ever wonder how crews and dispatchers operated in the hundred years before radios became available? Robert Raymond explains the intricacies of Timetable & Train Order, including a method to bring it to your own club or home layout.



33. Tuscarora Operations with Working Yard Tower

Clinician: Robert Raymond

Operator Robert Raymond (designer of the *Tuscarora Branch Line*) gives ideas and tips on how to build your dream layout in a small and manageable area. The Tuscarora shows how much the N-scale railroad operations you can pack into a 2x4 foot space. Set in Pennsylvania in 1962, we can accommodate five operators (scheduled freight and local engineer, coal operations, an interlocking lever operator, a station agent and a dispatcher). If you are interested in how a Yard Tower works, the Railroad Tuscarora layout has an actual working tower with real Armstrong Levers. Come and run! Robert's Layout will be set up in the Ballroom for attendees to operate on, so make sure you give it a try, it's a lot of fun.

34. Using DCC-EX

Clinician: M Steve Todd

We'll describe the DCC-EX project and (hopefully) show why it's worth looking into using concrete usage examples for any size DCC or DC layout. Focus will be on usage, but resources for purchasing or building will be provided. It's easier (and more useful) than you think.

35. Weathering on a Small Scale

Clinician: Tim Ellis

Since last year Tim has ventured into other approaches to weathering, he uses the standard Paint, Pastels / Powders and Watercolor Pencils. But, in combination and the clinic describes the processes of all possibilities.

Like last year, all who attend will have the opportunity to employ these techniques at your leisure as you follow along. There will be boxcar "mules" that will be distributed for your use to practice what you have been taught. Although they will not be "N" scale size.

36. Weed Control on the Railroads

Clinician: David Leider, MMR

Ever since the first rail was laid on the ground, weed control has been a problem for the railroads. Weeds foul the ballast, they obscure vision of the ties and they mat down, making the rails slippery. Weed control can be broken down into three categories: 1-Grubbing 2-Burning and 3-Chemical Control. I will discuss the pros and cons of each.

37. **Why We Model: The Hidden Science Behind the Hobby**
Clinician: Bernard Hellen from Miniprints.com

Ask your doctor if model railroading is right for you. Most modelers know the hobby feels rewarding, but few have seen the research behind why. In this clinic dr. mini explores what psychologists have discovered about flow state, creativity, mastery, stress reduction, and social connection—and why model railroading happens to combine many of the ingredients most closely associated with human wellbeing.

By the end, you'll see model railroading in a different light. It turns out we're not just building layouts—we're engaging in an activity that may be uniquely suited to how humans learn, create, connect, and thrive.

******Bringing it to life with Lights / Clinician: Jim Wiese CANCELED******

I will be discussing how to add lighting effects to your engines, passenger cars, and cabooses, using LED's and the different components involved.



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Advertisement Purchase Order

We offer 3 publications to advertise in:

Telegraph Key (TK)- a monthly publication that is emailed out to over 400 members of the Region and also posted on our website (NMRA SunshineRegion.org) for all visitors to download.

Journal Box (JB)- A quarterly publication that will be emailed out to over 400 members of the Region. It has the same readership as the Telegraph Key and is downloadable from our website. Published in Mar, Jun, Sep and Dec.

TimeTable (TT)- This is an annual publication that is printed and handed out to our most serious members. Publication offers all information about the happenings during the convention. It is published for the convention in October of each year and available for download.

Location of ads are placed at our discretion with exception to the front and back pages of TT.

**** TK Monthly requires a 2 CONSECUTIVE month minimum with 60 days notice for first ad placement.**

MFG, Stores, and Club ads Only	TK Monthly	TK YRLY	JB YRLY	TT	All 3 YRLY	QTY	TOT AMT
Business Card 3.5x2"	N/A	\$30	\$20	\$25	\$50		
1/3 page - TK/JB=3x7", TT=2.5x4.5"	\$8	\$50	\$35	\$40	\$100		
1/2 page- TK/JB=4.5x7", TT=4x4.5"	\$12	\$75	\$50	\$60	\$125		
full page- TK/JB=9x7", TT=8x4.5"	\$15	\$100	\$65	\$80	\$150		
Back Page**	N/A	N/A	N/A	\$150	N/A		
1/3 Front Page**	N/A	N/A	N/A	\$100	N/A		

Back Page and 1/3 front Page can sell early, we will notify you if unavailable.

Subtotal

Buy a Business Card ad plus any other ad take 10% addl off Subtotal Amount

Discount

IF TK MONTHLY list months here:

Total Due

*All non business card ads requires buyer to provide artwork. Email Artwork and business cards to NMRA_SunshineRegionMail@Yahoo.com.

We reserve the right to refuse any ads in any of our publications that we feel are not in the best interest of our members.

Make checks payable to: NMRA Sunshine Region, Inc. (and mail to above address)

All Artwork needs to be in JPEG format. We will scan business cards.

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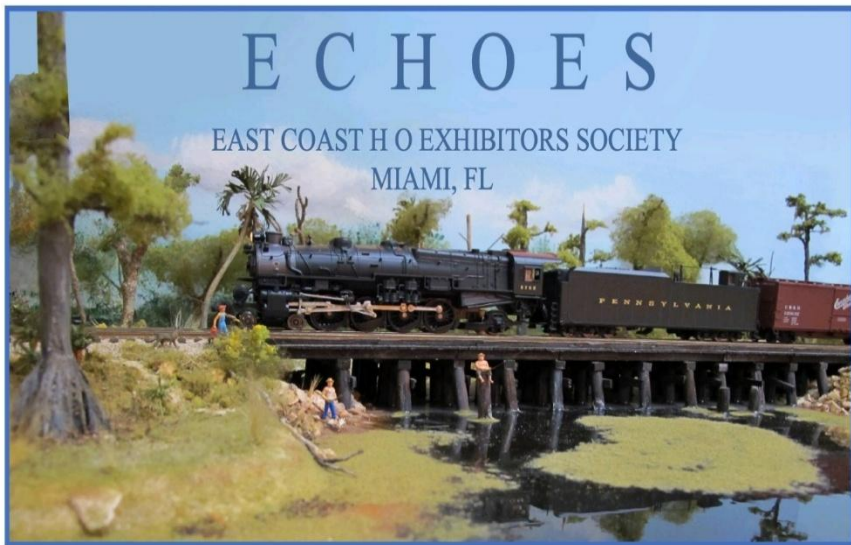
**The Museum is Open on the 2nd Saturday of the
month, the following dates are for the 4th quarter.**

10-10, 11-14, 12-12 from 11:00 AM to 4:00 PM

1300 W. Hillsboro Blvd. Deerfield Beach, FL
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E C H O E S

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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:

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



The NMRA Sunshine Region thanks the following businesses for supporting the NMRA Sunshine Region by the generous donation to our 2026 Regional Convention.

Without the help of businesses like these the Region could not sustain itself. Please support these businesses when you can.

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We also want to thank The Orlando N-Track Club for providing a great layout display and our operation sessions.

THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

[illegible]

J – Amarit Palace Indian Restaurant

K – Lakis Greek Restaurant

L – Red Lobster (while it is still around)

M – Olive Garden

N – Red Robin Gourmet Burgers

O – Outback Steakhouse

P – Cracker Barrel

Q – Steak and Shake

R – Waffle House

25



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CONVENTION**

**HAVE A SAFE TRIP HOME, THANKS FOR
COMING**

Mark your calendar —

Iron Horse 2027

OCT 7-9, 2027* OR

OCT 14-16, 2027*

(*depending on football schedule)

NMRASunshineRegion.org

**If you have a favorite clinician, below is a list by clinician
that corresponds to the list of clinics! Enjoy!**

Clinician	Clinic #		Clinician	Clinic #
Beckstrom, Paul	28		Lull, Rick	2
Bogatiuk, George	27		Maslyn, Timothy	24, 25
Chesler, Alan	15		Miller, Bob	13
Ellis, Mark	14		Paul, Richard	11
Ellis, Tim	7, 35		Peal, Scott	1, 26
Grazulis, Joe	10		Raymond, Robert	32, 33
Hanke, Jeff, MMR	5, 17, 20		Robinson, Gordy, MMR	16
Hellen, Bernard	37		Slaughter, Todd	29
Iannone, Mark	22		Smith, Dean, MMR	9, 30
Juett, Mark, MMR	8, 12		Thomas, Gilbert, Jr.	18, 31
Komar, Gail Allen, MMR	23		Todd, M Steve	3, 34
Leider, David, MMR	19, 36		Wetmore, Don	21
Leonard, Bob	4		Zimmerman, Andy	6

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