



Potomac Division Joint Meet with James River Set for November 5th

The Potomac Division's annual Joint Meet with James River will take place on Saturday, November 5th at the Battlefield Baptist Church in Warrenton, Virginia, starting at 9 AM.

There will be door prizes, a white elephant table, model judging and a popular vote contest with the theme of Maintenance of Way (MoW) cars – coincidentally, also our Division's Challenge category for the December-January *Flyer* issue. The centerpiece of the event will be clinics. The following are already scheduled:

Ken Wilson on Rolling Stock Brake Systems
Brian Sheron, MMR, on Making An Operational Grade Crossing Signal
Norm Reid & Jeffrey Fleisher on Model Railroad Photography
George Gaige on Building an Operating Water Tank
Phil Taylor on SoundTraxx Blunami
Ernie Little on Decoder Pro

Entry is free as is the parking. We will pass the hat to take up a donation for the church. Past donations from the Joint Meet have helped build a kids camp for inner city children and a feeding program for children in the U.S. and around the world.

The Church is located at 4361 Lee Highway in Warrenton.

There are also three layout open house visits scheduled in the afternoon:

Jim Rogers, Aldie, Virginia: Let's call it the *B&O Cheat River Sub*. It is HO, point-to-point, Baltimore to Cincinnati (staging), with main yards in Grafton, WV and Clarksburg, WV. A papermill is served from the Clarksburg yard. The Charleston Sub goes from Grafton to Charleston, WV, where there is an interchange track with the NYC. There are 3 NYC trains coming from Toledo to service Charleston. We use card waybills and Dispatcher control of the main line.

Paul Buzby, Gainesville, Virginia: His HO layout from the late 1950's to early 1960's, covers the Southern Jersey region, including the Pennsylvania Reading/Seashore Line, the Pennsylvania RR, the Reading RR, and the Central Railroad of New Jersey (CNJ). The layout includes a 17-stall roundhouse with turntable, prototypical track layout of Camden passenger yard with kit bash of Allen Tower, heading south to a scratch-built tower of Newfield, then to Winslow's kit bash tower, and finishing in Tuckahoe (with a scratch-built tower). Also, displaying an O-gauge layout with some vintage equipment, including an antique Lionel Train.

Marty McGuirk, Gainesville, Virginia: Marty's HO scale model railroad is inspired by the Central Vermont Railway of the steam era.

Joint Meet Schedule – Potomac & James River Divs.

- 8:00 am -- Set up for Staff, White Elephant tables, etc.
- 9:00 am – Open for Registration – [Gym Entrance](#)
- 9:20 am – Greeting and Announcements by Superintendents
Pastor Greeting, Prayer, Passing the Donations Bucket – [Main Auditorium](#)
- 9:40 am – Clinics, First Session
 - [Room 106](#): Ken Wilson, Rolling Stock Brake Systems
 - [Room 107](#): Brian Sheron, MMR, Making an Operational Grade Crossing Signal
 - [Room 111](#): Norm Reid & Jeffrey Fleisher, Model Railroad Photography
- 10:25 am – Break for Coffee and White Elephant Shopping – [Gym](#)
- 10:40 am – Clinics, Second Session
 - [Room 106](#): Phil Taylor, SoundTraxx Blunami
 - [Room 107](#): George Gaige, Building An Operating Water Tank
 - [Room 111](#): Ernie Little, Using Decoder Pro
- 11:25 am – Break for Coffee and White Elephant – [Gym](#)
- 11:45 am – Final Assembly – [Main Auditorium](#)
- 12:00 – Popular Vote Results, Raffle (Door Prizes), Closing – [Main Auditorium](#)
- 12:45-1 pm – Clean-up (volunteers) – Everywhere
- 1 pm – Off to Lunch – On Your Own
- 1:30 pm-4 pm – Layout Visits

Here are short descriptions of the clinics:

Brian Sheron, MMR has a clinic on how to build an operational railroad grade crossing (automatically detects approaching train, starts crossbuck flashers and warning bell, lowers gates, and then automatically stops flashers and bell, and raises gates once last car passes the crossing). Included with this clinic is an operational HO scale model of a grade crossing that demonstrates how the gates work, how and where the detectors are located, and how everything is electrically connected.

George Gaige, who developed the prototype for the Broadway Limited Operating Water Tank will show you how to build your own in HO, though the process can be used in any scale. Come and see how to add interest and animation to your layout. This animation is useful for an operations-oriented layout to set the time for how long a water stop lasts during an Ops Session. The accompanying sounds add to the ambiance during the process.

Ernie Little, MMR has a clinic on the JMRI DecoderPro application. The clinic will cover the use of the JMRI DecoderPro application to program Digital Command Control decoders and will include a demonstration of the use of the application.

Norm Reid & Jeffrey Fleisher will present a clinic on "Model Railroad Photography". In this clinic, you will learn how to compose effective photos, what equipment you may want to use, techniques for creating clear, in-focus photos and videos, and some post-processing techniques to enhance your photos.

Ken Wilson's clinic will provide participants with a clearer understanding of brake systems for both freight and passenger equipment. The way train brakes work, and what all the parts, pipes, and rods are will be demystified using diagrams and photos. Information will be provided to help modelers acquire the parts necessary to super detail cars, or at least upgrade older cars that only have minimal representation of brake equipment.

Philip Taylor's clinic will focus on the new Soundtraxx Blunami -- a device that marries a 2nd generation Bluetooth Radio Control Circuit to a Soundtraxx Tsunami 2 DCC Decoder. We will explore how this unique blend allows control and sound in straight DC, DCC and Dead Rail environments or if you choose some combination of the three options with or without a DCC Command System. There will be a demonstration of how to program the Blunami and operate it using a phone or tablet with 2 to 3 locomotives.

“White Elephant” Sales Notes:

Who may sell:

Only [NMRA members](#) may conduct a sale in this White Elephant sale. Sellers may sell only railroad-related items (model or prototype).

Table Reservations:

Tables are 72” x 30”. Reservations must be requested [no later than Wednesday, November 2](#). You can ask for more than one table.

Requests should be sent to Kenneth Montero by email to: va661midlo@comcast.net. Confirmation will be sent by Thursday, November 3. Questions: Call Ken Montero at 804-794-5704 and leave a message or by email.

Sale staffing:

The member requesting one or more tables will have to staff his/her tables (set-up, sales, close-out), either alone or with the help of one or more fellow attendees.

Sales:

Sellers will handle all aspects of their own sales.

Sellers are responsible for the security of items brought for sale.

Neither the James River Division, the Potomac Division or any of its members assisting with the sale accept any liability for items brought to the meet.

If away from one's tables, such as during a clinic, a seller may want to use a table cloth to cover sales items to indicate the seller is away.

Sales Times:

The sales area will be closed during the opening and closing portions of the meet. Doors to the gymnasium will be closed.

It will be open before the opening portion, during clinics, and after the closing portion.

Close-out:

The sales area will remain open after the closing portion of the meet.

Sellers are required to pack up any unsold items, then fold up and return to storage all tables by **1:00 pm**