## **November Battlefield Meet Report**

Text and Photos by Alex Belida, MMR, Flyer Editor

About 50 members of the Potomac and James River Divisions, plus guests, attended the Divisions' annual joint meet November 1st at Battlefield Baptist Church in Warrenton, Virginia. James River's Superintendent Phil Taylor (lower left photo) and Potomac's Senior Assistant Superintendent Greg Cassidy (photo below) opened the gathering after a welcome by Battlefield's Pastor Travis Owens. (Greg was acting in place of Potomac Superintendent Ernie Little, who was traveling.)





After the introductory remarks, attendees headed

off to the first session of clinics. Jack Dziadul, MMR of the Carolina Piedmont Division (photo right), discussed the creation of his Ipswich Hobbies model craftsman kits. These include depots, freight houses, baggage and tool sheds based on prototypes.





Two other clinics were under way at the same time.

Stan Stocker (photo left) of James River discussed the 3D printing of fleet cars at a cost of \$20 per car including trucks, couplers and decals.

Potomac's Pete LaGuardia, MMR, (photo below) covered Tortoise edge connectors and various methods for cleaning track in his clinic.



After a break to view and vote on entries in the Popular Vote Contest and to look over the items for sale on the White Elephant tables, members and guests could go to one of four modeler's demonstrations held simultaneously.

**Greg Cassidy** instructed attendees on painting and weathering; **Pete LaGuardia**, MMR showed track cleaning techniques and Tortoise edge connectors; **Brett Jones** of James River demonstrated how to make buildings from foam; and James River's **Rick Lull**, appearing virtually, offered what he called "a practical guide to Layout Command Control." (**Photos next page**)

## Greg Cassidy's painting and weathering demonstration



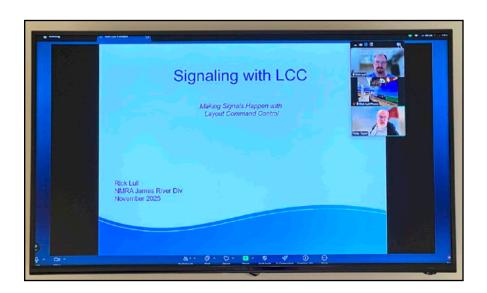


Pete LaGuardia's track cleaning and Tortoise edge connector lesson

## James River's Brett Jones cutting foam to make buildings



Rick Lull's virtual clinic on Layout Command Control





After the clinics and demonstrations concluded, attendees returned to Battlefield's auditorium. Potomac Achievement Program Coordinator Martin Brechbiel, MMR, presented Lee Stoermer with his Author certificate. Lee is the Potomac Division's Clerk.

Attention then turned to this year's Popular Vote Contest and the models of flatcars with loads, the category for the meet.

There were 14 entries in all from both Divisions (photos below).





The winner was **Greg Cassidy** for his model flatcar carrying a debris vessel.





For his efforts, Greg received a plaque from James River, and from Potomac he received a copy of Lance Mindheim's Industry Planning for Modern Era Switching

Layouts. Martin Brechbiel, MMR, took 2nd place with his flatcar carrying plumbing supplies.





3rd place was shared by two members of James River, **Chris Chapin** and **Glenn Lapkin**.





Chris Chapin's flat carrying steel rods is shown above. Chris received his 3rd place certificate from Phil Taylor (left).



Glenn Lapkin's pipe carrying flat is shown above. He, too, was handed his certificate by Phil (right).

After attendees pitched in to return tables and chairs to their racks and to clean up trash, they headed off for lunch and the opportunity to visit four Potomac member layouts: John Swanson's PRR Cresson Branch, Cam Green's Maine Central, Bryan Kidd's C&O Railway, and Bill Mosteller's Virginian Railway.

