



North Jersey Street Rod Association

December 2011
Volume 44 No. 12

NEWSLETTER

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Those of you who attended our Holiday Party last Saturday had a really good time. It was a lot of fun for the 40 or so members and guests - great food, good conversation. I would only like to have seen more of you there. Reminder - there is no monthly club meeting this month.

MERRY CHRISTMAS to all our members and friends!

Bob

Monthly Meeting: *Scotty*

Call to Order,
Pledge,
Moment of Silence
Roll Call: (22) Members,

Treasurer's Report from Hank:

.Hank reported on bills paid.

Meeting Discussions

We had a quiet and short meeting. We went over the Holiday party, mentioned the Saturday breakfast and side trip to Chester. Bob talked about our trip to the Wheels of Time and our donation. We voted Joe Guerin in as our newest member. And finally went over a few things about next year's show. Did the 50/50 and went home.

There will NOT be a meeting in December.
Our next club meeting will be January 25th.

50-50

This month's winner was Anthony.

Saturday Breakfast

We had our Saturday breakfast at the Hampton Dinner. Pat & Clarence, Nan & Roland, Jan & Scotty, and Rob showed up. We did the usual thing. Ate and gabbed our way through breakfast. When we finished we went to the festival of trees in Chester.

Steering Committee Meeting: */Scotty*

Cancelled

MODEL RAILROADING AND STREET RODDING *Frank Carey*

So what does model railroading have to do with street rodding? Nothing. Yet.

Hamburg, Germany, is home to the largest model railroad in the world. One of the more amazing aspects of this railroad is the level of automation. Of course the trains are all computer controlled but there are also cars and trucks driving on the streets and airplanes taxiing and taking off. Really. These people have prepared a video about their railroad and the link to this video is circulating on the Internet. My brother emailed it to me. Even if you're not into model railroading you'll surely enjoy it. Take a look.

http://youtu.be/ACkmg3Y64_s

I sent this link to Ed Weldon, a former North Jersey SRA member who moved to California in the 1970s. He's been a model railroader for years. Here's his response:

Frank - Always good to hear from you.

Miniator Wunderland is pretty cool. ... The airport is really neat. Ditto the night scenes. Everything moves too fast for realism, but I guess that's what the children (in all of us) want.

What's most interesting to me are the autos and trucks. The miniature mechanical technology applied to HO model vehicles in 5 years will be mainstream in US. Hot rodders have been building scale models of rods with super craftsmanship for decades. Soundtrax in the US is doing fantastic things with the control technology for HO trains. And there is the fringe of micromachinists building beautiful operational engine models. The racing world is getting pretty good with computer control.

One of these days the street rodders will put that all together - the operation, control, scale detail, sounds, model scene art, and creative model construction techniques. The end result will be museum quality recreations of hot rod scenes of our past. It's happening already in the fine scale model train world. A lot of the pieces are there. Just change their shape and color.

Maybe pass along my thoughts to your club buds some of whom still love hotrodding but may have built their last full size rod.

Ed

If this all sounds a little too futuristic for you, hold onto your seats. To see what the "micromachinists" are making, click here.

<http://www.wimp.com/tiniestengine/>

WORLD'S LARGEST TRAFFIC JAM *Frank Carey*

The longest traffic jam in the world recorded in China. Its length is 260 kilometers (about 162 miles).



POLICE PRANKS *Frank Carey*

It take very large you-know-whats to pull pranks on the police. The classic prank of all time was in the movie *American Grafitti* when our hero's prank yanked the rear axle out of a police car. But the advances in police technology provide new "opportunities" for recreation. The cruiser mounted cameras that read license plates automatically without any action by the cop in the car are the candidate in the attached story. This new system automatically reads plates it can "see", checks to see of the car is stolen, check for warrants on the car owner, and checks to see if the car is speeding at the moment the plate is read. If the car is speeding, a ticket is automatically mailed to the car owner at his address of record.

This account is apparently from Australia but could just as easily have originated in the U.S.

Breathtaking bravado foils speed camera

QC received a very amusing although naughty e-mail from a spy at the Department of Transport this week. Our mate informs us that four youths from Canberra recently pulled off a trick of breathtaking bravado to gain revenge on a mobile speed-camera van operating in the area. Three of the group approached the van and distracted the operator's attention by asking a series of questions about how the equipment worked and how many cars the operator would catch in a day. Meanwhile, the fourth musketeer sneaked to the front of the van and unscrewed its number plate. "After bidding the van operator goodbye, the friends returned home, fixed the number plate to the car and drove through the camera's radar at high speed – 17 times," our transport spy writes. "As a result, the automated billing system issued 17 speeding tickets to itself. Go Aussies!"

Events: 2011 / Scotty

If you know of an event & would like it listed, please contact me scottydietz@comcast.net. I will post any show, cruise or event that I am given. For those items not given to me go to the web site below.

FOR SHOW AND CRUISE NIGHTS DATES AND TIMES GO TO
www.njcarshow.com

Events:2012

AutoMania Allentown
Jan 20-22

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