



# THE LANTERN



MAY 2013

VOLUME 15, ISSUE 5

## Superintendent's report

What a great turnout for the April meeting! It was nice to see visitors. I hope you had an opportunity to greet them and please bring friends to future meetings.

It was good to see so many items for Bring and Brag. Congratulations to Pete Birdsong for his winning entry. Thanks also to all who participated. We are still working through some issues with Bring and Brag and hopefully will have them worked out before our next meeting in May. The standings are on page 3, and they'll be adjusted in the June issue.

My clinic on painting was a lot of fun for me and I hope everyone was able to learn something from it. It was my first clinic (photo to the right), and I must admit I was a little nervous starting, but the presentation came from years of making mistakes. Hopefully the tips will save you from the same mistakes.

Thanks to Bill Pausell for hosting the tour. We all appreciated seeing his awesome layout with lots of detail and the scratch built buildings. Thanks again Bill.

If you would like to host a tour in the future, please contact Brian Jones. We always enjoy looking at layouts of members and guests.

May brings us warmer weather, and several upcoming events. Don't forget the Dayton Regional Convention May 16<sup>th</sup> through May 19<sup>th</sup>. The national convention in July is listed on page 4.

The May clinic will be Mark Underwood's Presentation on JMRI Operations. You don't want to miss this opportunity to see JMRI and ask questions.

If you have anything to donate to the Silent Auction please get in touch with Larry Smith or myself. We are hoping to get that portion of our Sunday meeting started back very soon.

Hope to see you at our next meeting on May 5 @ 1:30 pm, and bring a friend.  
— Rick Cobb



## REFLECTIONS ON THE ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM

by Bill Paulsell

One of my responsibilities in Division 10 is to encourage all of our members to participate in the NMRA Achievement Program.

I have been a member of the NMRA off and on for at least 35 years. When I first learned of the program my immediate reaction was no way could I ever do that. It was for the real pros in the hobby. Hand lay track and scratch build turnouts (June meeting clinic) and a crossover? That was for people who had skills I would never have. Scratch build cars with brake rigging, separate grab irons and other details? That was way beyond me. My skills were limited to building Varney paper side cars and later those that came in Athearn blue boxes. Operation? I hardly knew what that was and it sounded pretty complicated. Scratch build and

detail structures? It was all I could do to put together a simple plastic kit without getting glue all over it. Weathering? That was for the artist types. Scenery? All I knew growing up was some cardboard buildings and a little plaster of paris here and there. I would see pictures of layouts with elaborate scenery and could only dream of such things.

But, you know what? I saw people in our group who had done it or were doing it. As I got to know members in our division, one of the greatest benefits of the club, it all became a little less mysterious. If others could do it, at least I could try.

I found that if you break a project down into small parts, it could be done: one grab iron at a time, one brake pipe or lever at a time, one rail or spike at a time, one board or piece of styrene at a time, one train at a time in scheduling operations. Anyone in our group could do those things once, twice, and as





For the NMRA MC Region officers link to [www.midcentral-region-nmra.org/bod2.html](http://www.midcentral-region-nmra.org/bod2.html)

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- Pete Birdsong & Bill Pausell, Achievement Program
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- Stew Winstandley, *Lantern* Editor & Membership Database
- Tom Miller, Education
- Mike Cummins, Reception & Door Prizes
- Bill Robbins, Bring and Brag

**Division 10 Treasurer's Report:** Balance Mar. 1, 2013—\$3744.38;  
Expenses: Lantern \$47.00; Deposits: Contributions \$0.00;  
Balance Mar. 31, 2013—**\$3697.38**

**In Recognition...**

Many thanks to folks listed in the column below. They have given their support for our club. We encourage all NMRA members to help with financial support to *The Lantern* and our website and the Division 10 activities. **Send your monetary contribution to our Treasurer.**

To be listed here your contribution needs to be at least \$20 in cash, or material valued at \$50, or a total of 20 hours time within the last year. Division 10 receives NO monetary support from the NMRA or the MidCentral Region. Div.10 is recognized by the US government as a 501c3 corporation and your cash or material donations may be tax deductible.

Report materials or time to Stew Winstandley so that he can keep track of them. To the right of each contributing member's name is the month of his or her latest contribution. Whenever one makes a contribution of money, material, or time, his or her date will be updated, and for new contributors, their name will be added. Anyone not making a contribution within 12 months will be dropped .

Randy Coffman	2/2013
Paul Evans	1/2013
Orville Boes	"
Alan Smith	12/12
Tom Krill	11/12
John Stokes	"
Brian Jones	10/12
Bruce DeMaeyer	"
Don Burris	"
Alan Bourne	"
Frank Miller	"
Lou Jaquith	"
Ed A. Fuller	"
Ray Cox	"
Fred Plymale	"
Dave Battin	6/2012
John Bowling	"

REFLECTIONS ... continued from bottom of page 1

many times as needed. The greatest benefit of the whole program is what you learn. You will find yourself doing things on your layout or equipment you have never done before, and that will give you more confidence to move on to the next project.

I made plenty of mistakes and had to do things over. I learned the challenge of working with small parts. If you are going to put on four grab irons you had better have eight on your workbench. You will drop some and never find them. One MMR at a convention called it "tweezers launch." I experienced a lot of that. Sometimes you use materials that are too thin or too thick and you have to try again. Colors don't always look as good as you think they will.

What judges will see are the finished products, not all the corrected mistakes along the way. By the way, judges are good people who want to see you succeed. To maintain integrity they use the NMRA point system. When they told me I had to do more work, the result was that my layout looked better.

Having MMR behind your name is a small consolation. The real benefit is what you learn in the process. Do what it takes to get those seven certificates and you will have a very satisfying sense of accomplishment plus a whole workbench of new and useful skills for model railroading.

## Witless & Clueless

The continuing saga of  
Rivets O'Reilly and Larry Loungecar

Written by Mike Armstrong



Rivets: Hey, Larry, Whatcha readin'?

Larry: Oh, hi Rivets! I am readin' DCC instructions for several different manufacturers.

Rivets: Are you finally gonna dive into DCC? Where'd ya get all the booklets.

Larry: Well, I bought four different systems. I'm gonna go with the one I can understand the best.

Rivets: Which one ya like the best?

Larry: I haven't got that far yet. First I am lookin' to see what these have in common.

Rivets: Like what?

Larry: Well the first thing they have in common is that I don't understand any of 'em.

Rivets: Well, that's not much of a start.

Larry: The second thing is they are written for people who like to read.

Rivets: Well, readin' is important. You should try it sometime.

Larry: Very funny, Rivets. People learn different ways, some by readin', some by doin', some by lookin'. I want more pictures in the booklets.

Rivets: What? Like Beetle Bailey?

Larry: No! I want more instructional pictures. I don't get all this. Look at what I got set up over here.

Four tracks, four systems. And that is another thing they have in common...none of 'em work.

Rivets: Do you know you got your instruction booklets sitting by the wrong system?

Larry: Well, that could explain some things.

Rivets: Why don't ya learn one first and then compare the others to that?

Larry: Because if I learn one first, that will be the one I think I like and I might not like it.

Rivets: Yer makin' it harder on yerself.

Larry: Well, ya know Rivets, I do kinda like this anal one. It seems to work the best.

Rivets: Larry, that is just standard DC. You just bought a new power pack.

Larry: No, Rivets. The guy told me it was called the anal oge.

Rivets: Larry, it's not anal oge...it's analog, as opposed to DCC. Long 'a' sound.

Larry: Well, who cares. I like it the best.

Rivets: So yer NOT gonna dive into DCC.

Larry: Sure I am. I just need to be sure.

Rivets: Sure of which system to buy?

Larry: No, sure this is the right time and the right place.

Rivets: That means you ain't gonna make the switch.

Larry: Sure I'm gonna make it. I just need to study up a little more.

Rivets: If not now, when?

Larry: Then.



Above: Pete Birdsong, the 2015 MCR convention chairman, brought the convention brochure to the March meeting. Left: Checking out the 2015 convention brochure at the March meeting.

The current **Bring and Brag** standings are: Brian Jones, 82; Pete Birdsong, 32; Rick Cobb, 22; Bob Belt, 11; Bill Robins, 11; Lou Jaquith, 7; Bob Ferguson, 4; Don Burris, 3; Dave Batten, 2; Mike Cummins and Bill Paulsell, 1.

B&B Points: 1st place, 15; 2nd place, 7; 3rd place, 3; all other entries, 1. Show category entries will not receive points.

**THE LANTERN**  
NEWSLETTER FOR NMRA MCR DIVISION 10

210 BRANNON RD.  
NICHOLASVILLE, KY 40356-9711  
WWW.DIV10-MCR-NMRA.ORG



*MAY 5*

**BRING AND BRAG**

FREIGHT CAR WITH VISIBLE  
LOAD, 1:30 PM

**MEETING AGENDA**

OPERATIONS JMRI—MARK  
UNDERWOOD

**TOUR**

FRED PLYMALE, 3463 SNAFFLE  
RD., 40513

**AROUND THE BEND**

MON.	DAY	HOST	PLACE	EVENT / PROGRAM	TOURS	BRING & BRAG
May	5	Div. 10	Central Christian Church, Watkins Bldg., E. Short Street	Operations with JMRI—Mark Underwood	Fred Plymale	Freight car-visible load
June	2	Div. 10	Central Christian Church, Watkins Bldg., E. Short Street	Construction of #4 Fast Track Turnouts—Bob Belt	Bruce DeMaeyer	Trolley, electric Traction, Rail Bus
July	14-20	National	Atlanta, Ga.	Peachtree Express Convention <a href="http://www.nmra2013.org/">http://www.nmra2013.org/</a>	50 of Atlanta's Great Model Railroads	
Aug.	4	Div. 10	1125 Linn Rd. near Eubank, Ky.	Grosser's O and 1:8 scale railroads	Grosser's	
Sept.	1	Div. 10	Central Christian Church, Watkins Bldg., E. Short Street			Diesel or Electric Locomotive

2013 Mid-Central Region Convention, May 15-18

**Operations Dayton 2013**

<http://mcr2013convention.com/>

2015 Mid-Central Region Convention

**Thoroughbred Limited 2015**

<http://thoroughbredlimited2015.yolasite.com/>