



The Lantern



Volume 2 Issue 9

Division 10, Mid Central Region

September, 2000



**National
Model
Railroad
Association**

The Lantern is a monthly publication of Division 10, Mid Central Region, National Model Railroad Association. Opinions expressed herein are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect those of Division 10, the Mid Central Region, the NMRA, or anyone else.

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Message From The Superintendent

Sunday Sept 3rd at 2PM in Danville will be a fun day for Div. 10 model railroaders.

If you attended our April meeting, you know how great the Danville tours are. This second tour, clinics and a cookout at Bob Lawson's, will be one you won't want to miss. You'll see things that you missed the first time and see the considerable progress made since your last visit. First timers will be amazed at the size, modeling excellence and attention to detail on the layouts.

In addition to the opportunity for you to use Digitrax to run trains on Bob's layout, he is going to conduct two clinics to show us how to build inexpensive buildings and trees that he uses on his award winning dioramas. It is a wonderful opportunity to learn some of the modeling techniques and skills that Bob used to win the "Best of the Best", and "Judges Favorite" categories at our Regional convention in Medina. Handouts of Bob's tips and methods will be passed out at the clinics.

After the clinics, Bob will host a cookout and barbecue at his home. All you need to bring for this very special event is your enthusiasm for

modeling and any extra lawn chairs or card tables you have handy. Food and soft drinks will be provided.

Fun, fellowship, and the sharing of modeling skills is at the very core of what NMRA Div. 10 represents. Join us in Danville and take an active part in our activities. A map to the meeting site is included in this Lantern and directions to John Bowling's layout will be provided at the meeting, provided John is at home.

See you in Danville!

Fred Plymale

NEWS, EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome to new member *Mike Cummins* of Frankfort, our 86th member!

Board Meeting:

A board meeting was held on Thursday, August 10, at *Fred Plymale's*. The general content was a review of the past year, and plans for the next two to three years. If you'd like a copy of the minutes, please contact an officer or board member.

General meeting:

We had a good meeting in August, although I was unable to attend because of a wedding in North Carolina. *Mike Armstrong* pitched in for me with the following meeting notes:

There were about 20 in attendance.

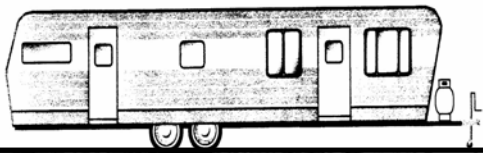
(Continued on page 6)

Thanks to www.mhistorical.com for this picture



THE NMRA'S MID-CENTRAL REGION IS PLEASED TO OFFER A BRAND NEW HO SCALE STRUCTURE KIT-

A "CLASSIC" 1950s MOBILE HOME KIT



ture a very special set of etched brass detail parts that include lawn furniture, a barbecue grill and TV antenna!

All proceeds go to help the MCR and

Division 10. Help support us by buying as many as you can. Please pre-order by sending your check (payable to NMRA Div. 10.) to:

Fred Plymale

3463 Snaffle Rd.,

Lexington, KY 40513.

Include your name, address, telephone #, and \$14.98 per kit (two for \$25.00), plus \$2.00 shipping for one kit, or \$3.00 for more than one.

Kits are in stock!

They're selling well in the region! See the article at right about Ray Pershing's experience building a couple of these kits. Ray is the MCR Contest Chairman. We'd like to see your completed kit(s) at a meeting soon!

RAY PERSHING'S NOTES ON BUILDING THE MCR MOBILE HOME KITS:

I've built two of the preproduction kits so far, and I think that everyone will be very pleased. The kits just about fall together. Very minimal mold parting lines, except for the heavy gates on the propane tanks. These and the steps were really the only parts that required any significant cleanup work. I built two kits, one using ACC and one using quick setting liquid plastic cement, and found that I preferred the ACC because it set up the ends faster, making it easier to get the fit right.

I painted the entire model ATSF silver (although Model Master metalizer aluminum would have been cool, I didn't have any on hand), masked the doors and roof panel, then painted the base and contrasting trim colors. The horizontal highlights on the sides make masking this very easy. Finally, I went back with a 10/0 brush and did the window frames.

The chairs and table I had were incredibly fragile. They have gone back and beefed them up a little, but I haven't seen the new parts yet. I was able to work with the original chairs and table, but it took me a couple tries. The grill was very cool, and the antenna looks great!

Ray

(See ordering instructions at left)

MCR
Pins & Patches:
\$3.00 each
See
Mike Armstrong

Support the Mid-Central Region and Division 10 with this great new model kit. The NMRA's MCR and Division 10, in conjunction with City Classics, is producing a COMPLETELY NEW state-of-the-art kit that reproduces a "classic" mobile home from the 1950s. This kit will feature a variety of extra parts, including tires, propane tanks, steps, fold-out canopy, and full skirting for turning it into a permanent home. This should be the finest kit of this type ever produced! Whether it's one along a road by itself or a complete mobile home court, it's something everyone can use on layouts set in the 50s to the present!

In addition, the initial run being produced for the MCR will fea-

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Sunday: Closed

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...Save on Trains and Planes



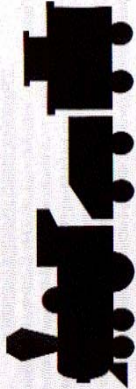
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Lexington, KY 40504

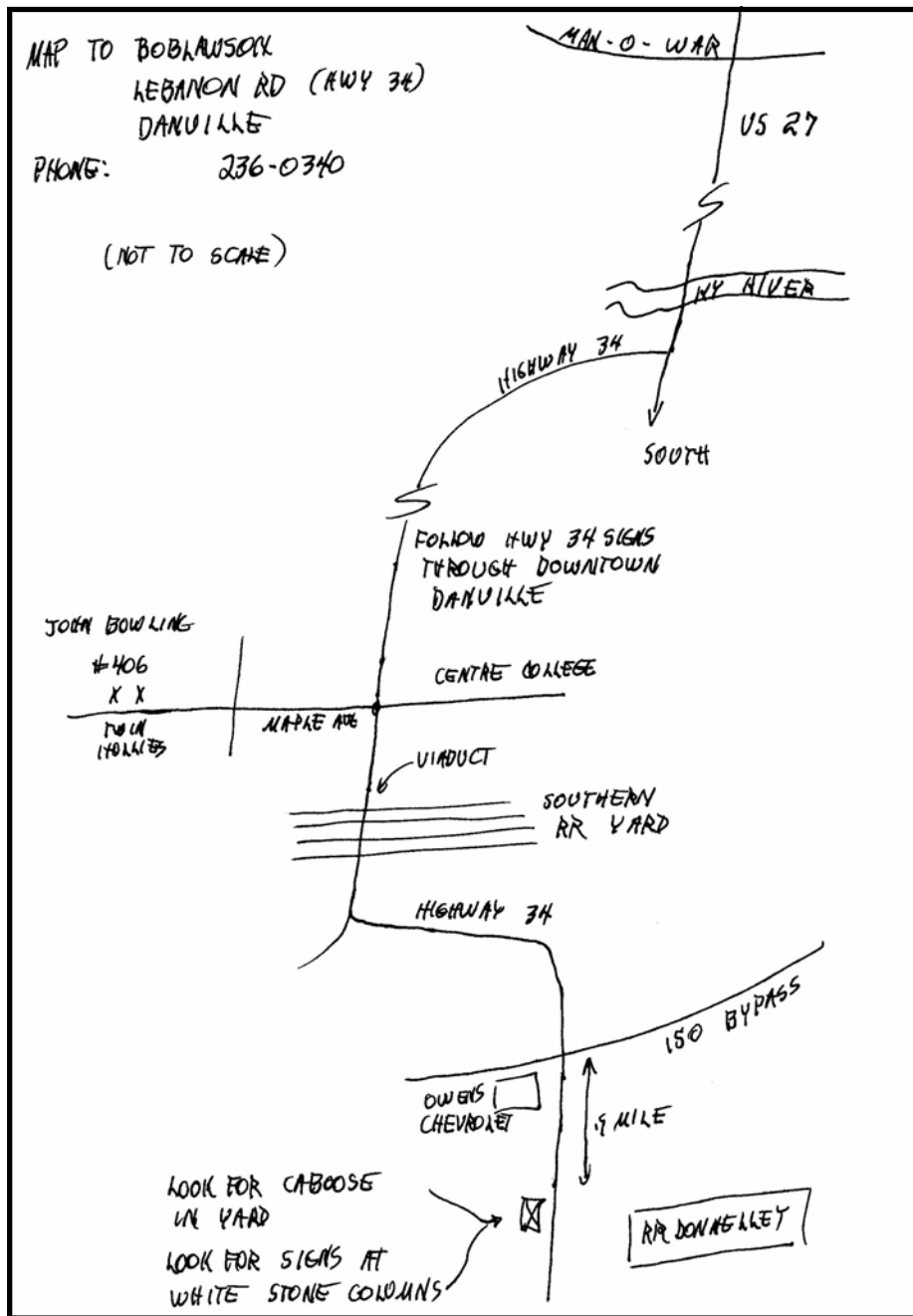
Overland Models - Hallmark - Key Imports
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Support Our Local Hobby Shops

Advertisers listed on this page are supporting us with their ads, so let's support them with our business! A strong retail network is vital to keeping the hobby visible to the public, and provides valuable help to newcomers. By our patronage of their stores, they are able to continue bringing more people into the hobby, and promoting our organization.....

win-win!!

MAP TO THE SEPTEMBER MEETING/CLINIC/TOUR
BRING IT WITH YOU -
THE MEETING & CLINIC ARE AT THE TOUR SITE!!



Member Aid

For help with modeling problems, call Joe Holbrook, Member Aid Chairman, for expert, free help, cheerfully given.

859 277 5835,

702 Seattle Drive, Lexington, KY 40503

In Appreciation....

Many thanks to our Sustaining and Patron members listed below. (Sustaining members contribute \$10.00 per year, and Patrons \$20 or more.) We encourage all members to help support *The Lantern* and our websites.

PATRONS

- | | |
|-----------------|----------------|
| Mike Armstrong | Richard Crane |
| Pete Birdsong | John Deville |
| Burt Brashear | John Greene |
| Tom Brough | Ray Grosser |
| Wendell Greer | Mark Hunt |
| Joe Holbrook | Lyman Jenkins |
| Lou Jaquith | Frank Miller |
| Bob Lawson | Bill Paulsell |
| David Mikulec | Frank Randall |
| Fred Plymale | David Reed |
| William Robbins | Bob Richardson |
| | Richard Rink |
| | J. Roberts |
| | Wes Ross |
| | Ron Saylor |
| | Ed Sims |
| | John Stokes |

SUSTAINING MEMBERS

MODELING TIP

(Compliments of Ted Wetterstroem)

To avoid wasting time crawling around on the floor, looking for a "launched" part (which you may NEVER find), try this: take an old hand towel and tape one end to the edge of your workbench, and tuck the other end into your belt (if you wear overalls, you're on your own).

Now, if you drop a part, it'll likely land on the towel.

Just remember to unhook from the towel before leaving the workbench.

DIVISION 10 OFFICER ELECTIONS

It's time for our first elections for officers for Division 10. We're almost a year old now. Officers are elected for two-year terms. Bob Richardson has chaired the nominations committee, but no nominations have been forthcoming. Our existing officers have all agreed to stand for election. Their sketches appear below, along with a ballot, which should be returned to Bob by September 15th.

For Superintendent: Fred Plymale has served for the past year as Superintendent in the pre-elections Division 10. He was the driving force behind re-instituting the Division, and has been tireless in all the efforts necessary to ensure a firm grounding. His plans for the next two years include recruiting of a broad pool of leadership for the Division, including future officers and board members, as well as committee chairs, expanding Division 10 activities, and strengthening cooperation between the NMRA and the other train-oriented groups in the Bluegrass area.

For Assistant Superintendent: Wendell Greer has served for the past year as Assistant Superintendent in the pre-elections Division 10. In addition, he has been actively involved in the Achievement Program, both as a participant and as an A.P. judge. His plans for the next two years include continued participation in the A.P. program and development of its judging staff, and coordination of shows. Wendell has completed all requirements for, and is soon to be awarded, a Master Model Railroader certificate, the only one in the Division as far as we know.

For Secretary: Pete Birdsong has served for the past year as Secretary in the pre-elections Division 10. Pete has also served as editor of our newsletter, *The Lantern*, and served on the Web Page committee, establishing a second site to include selections from *The Lantern* and a late-breaking updates feature on its home page. His plans for the future include expansion of the newsletter with additional features, and possibly forming an informal or formal Operations SIG with the objectives of rotating operations sessions and accrediting points towards the Chief Dispatcher Achievement Program award. He would also like to further communications about DCC within the Division.

For Treasurer: Mike Armstrong has served for the past year as Treasurer in the pre-elections Division 10, and has also chaired the Company Store and Estate Auctions committees. He is probably the most "cosmopolitan" member of the officer slate, involved in N, HO, O and G, and in outreach programs to youth. His plans for the future include involvement in shows, expansion of outreach activities, and generally lending his enthusiastic support for all of the Division 10 activities and initiatives, as well as continuation of the normal duties of Treasurer.

BALLOT

FOR ELECTED OFFICIALS OF NMRA MID CENTRAL DIVISION 10

For the two years beginning October 1, 2000, and ending September 30, 2002

For Superintendent:	_____	Fred Plymale
For Assistant Superintendent:	_____	Wendell Greer
For Secretary:	_____	Pete Birdsong
For Treasurer:	_____	Mike Armstrong

Signature: _____

Return Ballots to:

Bob Richardson, 3433 Grasmere Drive, Lexington, KY. 40503

Tel 859-219-1583) e-mail: brich948@aol.com

RAILROAD DAYS

Model Train & Railroadiana Show & Sale



Time: Setup/Early Bird Trading - Friday Night 6 - 9 p.m.
 & Saturday Morning 8 - 10 a.m. (Members Only)
 General Public 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. Sat. Sept. 16
 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Sun. Sept. 17

Admission: NMRA Members - FREE!
 General Public - \$3.00
 Children Under 12 Free

Tables: Vendors Solicited - Tables \$10 each or
 2 for \$15



The Center For Rural Development

US 27 South

Operating Layouts - All Gauges

Door Prizes

Need Not be Present To Win

Co-Hosts:
 Fred Plymale, NMRA
 Division 10 Superintendent
 3463 Snaffle Road
 Lexington, KY 40513
 859-223-7270

Pride In Pulaski Committee
 P.O. Box 126
 Somerset, KY 42502
 606-679-7323

Clip And Return To Pride In Pulaski Committee

Bonus!!!

Train Ride On Big South Fork
 Scenic Railroad ~ Stearns, KY
 10 a.m. - 1 p.m., Friday, September 15, 2000
 \$5 (limited seating) \$ _____ enclosed for _____ tickets

Name _____ Address _____

(Continued from page 1)

NEWS, EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Frank Koch's clinic on the Achievement Program was extremely well done and informative.

Both the tours at **Wes Ross** and **Bill Robbins** were great.

Thanks to Frank, Wes and Bill for sharing with us.

Somerset:

This will be here shortly, and promises to be a really worthwhile show. We still need some help, so please contact Fred or an officer to volunteer to man a table or operate a layout, etc.

Altoona:

Contrary to rumor, there are still hotel rooms left. See page 6 for more details, and the website for the latest info.

Officer Elections:

See Page 5 for ballots, and thumbnail sketches of the candidates. Be sure to get your ballot to **Bob Richardson** in this **HOTLY CONTESTED** race!! Seriously, it was not expected that we'd have a lot of candidates for offices this first time around - everybody's still new, trying to figure out where to fit in, etc. But be thinking about YOUR involvement as an officer, a board member, or on a committee in the coming months. And do turn in your ballots.

Pete

Directions to Somerset Center for Rural Development:

From Lexington, follow US 27 South, four miles past the intersection with KY 80 and the Cumberland Parkway junction in Somerset.

JUNIATA JUNCTION

MER/MCR/NER JOINT CONVENTION

October 5-8 Altoona, PA

This is excerpted from the convention website, <http://www.cincy-div7.org/JuniataJunction.html>

Use the website for the latest information on the convention. There's a link to it on our Div 10 website,

<http://pages.prodigy.net/rrpete/links.html>

Features Summary:

Shuttle Bus Transportation ~ About 30 Clinics ~ RAILFEST, featuring Horseshoe curve ~ Lots of non-rail excursion features ~ Home layout tours ~ Contests ~Live Auction ~ Door Prizes ~ More!

Late NEWS: The Ramada and the Hampton room blocks are sold out, but we still have blocks at Comfort and Days Inn.

MEMBER PROFILES

Ray & Renee Grosser



Ray and Renee Grosser live at 1145 Linn Road, Eubank, Kentucky, just north of Somerset, off state highway 39.

Ray grew up at Glenwood, Minnesota on the Soo Line Railroad, where his dad was a brakeman for 47 years. He started modeling the Soo Line in 1951 when he was 11 with a railroad around the basement wall of the four apartment house building his parents rented. He operated and worked on the layout until 1957, when it was torn down due to loss of interest.

Ray went into the US Navy in 1958, and served with a Sea Bee Battalion on Okinawa. He returned to Minnesota in the early 1960s and went to the Alexandria Trade School to become a tool and die maker. There he built a 1-inch scale live steam Soo Line model locomotive and used it as his final exam. His grades out of that course have never been equaled due to the steam locomotive project, according to the school records.

Renee grew up on the Great Northern at Waite Park, Minnesota, where her father was a welding foreman and Carman for 42 years.

Ray and Renee decided to model their childhood memories and nostalgia on an 18 X 34 foot sectional portable model railroad after getting back into the hobby in 1990. Ray has constructed the yards, depot, roundhouse, and his boyhood home on one side, Renee has constructed a portion of the Great Northern car shops and repair buildings, as well as 5 of the 7 blocks of the street she lived, and where her parents still live in Waite Park.

Renee has constructed over 100 scratch built prototype buildings and over 120 auto-

Witless vs Clueless

Rivets O'Reilly and Larry Loungecar "The End Game"

Rivets: Hey, Larry; how's it goin'? I haven't been over here at your place in a while. The layout's lookin' good!

Larry: Gee, thanks, Rivets. But I've got a lot of work to do on it still. How've you been?

Rivets: I'm strugglin' with a real issue, Larry. It's killin' me!

Larry: What kind of issue, Rivets?

Rivets: I can't decide on a time frame for my layout, Larry, so I can't decide between FREDs and Cabeese.

Larry: You mean cabooses?

Rivets: Whatever...but if I decide on an earlier time frame, it means cabeeses, or whatever, and if I go "modern" it means FREDs. And they both have problems. When you're runnin' a way freight, it takes a lot of extra moves to lay off the caboose, and pick it up again, and the idea of the FRED just bein' on the same few cars ain't right either, and it's a royal pain to move 'em from one car to

the other. What do you run, Larry?

Larry: Sometimes I hook on a caboose, when I feel like it; and I have a FRED on a few cars when I want to simulate big modern unit trains. Sometimes I just run around "naked."

Rivets: Careful where you say that, Larry. Some people might get the wrong idea. And you're not bein' strictly prototypical, are you?

Larry: Maybe not, Rivets, but you gotta stretch the prototype image somewhere, unless you're runnin' a real prototype. It's just a matter of where you want to stretch it, and what's the most fun for you. Meanwhile, I've got anxiety problems of my own.

Rivets: What's the matter, Larry?

Larry: I can't find my Walthers catalog, and it's makin' me feel so insecure!

Rivets: I'm gonna kill you one of these days, Larry...

SEE OUR
WEBSITES
AT:

<http://nmra-division10.railfan.net>

David Mikulec, Web Chair

and

<http://pages.prodigy.net/rrpete/>

mobiles for the layout. Ray has scratch built 10 prototype buildings, Soo Line motive power, rolling stock, passenger equipment, and various details to depict the area around his home.

Both have numerous NMRA Merit Awards for their work and they continue to build models for themselves and from time to time take commissions to build for others. Ray also paints models professionally and installs DCC decoders and sound units for customers from all over the country.

AROUND THE BEND....

NEXT MEETING:

Sep. 3rd: NMRA MCR
Div. 10: 2:00pm,
Danville, KY.
Clinic, Tour & BBQ:
Bob Lawson
See map inside.

September

Sep. 16-17th: Somerset
“Railroad Days” Train
Show; 10:00am—4:00pm.
Operating Displays,
Vendors. For table rental
information call 1-800-642-
6287

October

Oct. 1: NMRA MCR Div .
10: 2:00pm at Beaumont
Library.
Clinic: Woodland Scenics -
Diorama and “30 miles in
3”
Master Model Railroader
Miles & Fran Hale
Tours: Wendell Greer and
Joe Holbrook

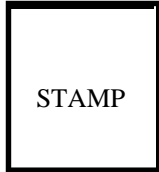
Oct. 5-8: Juniata Junction
MCR/MER/NER Joint
Convention in Altoona, PA

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The Lantern

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Who’s That? (See Inside)