



The Lantern



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Division 10, Mid Central Region

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**National
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Association**

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Scenery Planning Clinic in December

I would like to extend an invitation to all of our members to attend the December 1 meeting and clinic that will be held at Beaumont library.

This month we are going to have a clinic on scenery planning and theory. This is not a "nuts and bolts" clinic on how to actually construct scenery (a topic for another clinic) but on how to design your scenery to realistically depict nature and accommodate your track plan.....not always an easy task. The clinic will

(Continued on page 5)

Message From The Superintendent

Our thanks go out to **Division 8** in Louisville. On Saturday, November 16th, our club was their guest for the day. We had a lot of fun and were shown great hospitality. They have a club house that contains running layouts for all gages. The HO layout was especially excellent. After serving us lunch, we were invited to tour four other layouts. Three were individuals layouts in homes and one was a modular N gage. All were very impressive, particularly the N gage on display in the library in New Albany, Indiana. The guys of Division 8 were gracious hosts and perhaps someday we can return the favor.

I would like to encourage all members and guests to attend as many of our outside activities and monthly meetings as you can. You are missing some great stuff if you don't attend. In

(Continued on page 5)

NMRA Achievement Program Explained!

Would you like recognition for your modeling efforts?

The Achievement Program may be just what you are looking for.

The Achievement Program (AP) is a way to be recognized for your achievements in the hobby and provides an incentive to learn and master the many skills necessary in the hobby of model railroading. Each time you complete the requirements of a category you will receive an official NMRA certificate acknowledging you achievement. The AP consists of eleven categories, two dealing with building model railroad equipment, three dealing with model settings, three dealing with engineering and operation, and three dealing with service to the hobby. To be a "Master Modeler"

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“STUFF” & OPPORTUNITIES

Mike Armstrong occasionally knows of *members’ overstock* situations and other opportunities to acquire or dispose of “stuff.” Get in touch with him to find out what’s currently available. These liquidations, generally via a web auction, bear a 15 to 20% fee.

In addition, *The Lantern* is in a position to advertise your “overstock” items, for a fee of 10%.

Contact Mike Walter to arrange for an ad, or Mike Armstrong for liquidations.

Committee Chairs

Achievement Program	David Greer
Advertising	Mike Walter
Community Activities	Open
Company Store	Chris Cord
Contests	Ron Kercheval
Conventions & Shows	Fred Plymale
Editor & Webmaster	John Gorman
Estate Liquidations	Mike Armstrong
Member Aid	Wendell Greer
Membership	Wendell Greer
Photographer	Pete Birdsong
Programs	Fritz Dutro

Witless vs. Clueless

The Continuing Railroad Adventures of Rivets O’Reilly and Larry Loungecar

Created by ‘Railroad’ Pete Birdsong
Written by Mike Armstrong



Rivets: Okay, Larry, I’m here. Now what is it you wanted to show me?

Larry: Step in here, Rivets. What do you think of this room?

Rivets: Larry, this looks like a hodgepodge of track and wood! What the heck is it?!

Larry: Rivets, I have been trying to get published in a model railroad magazine for a long time. I have come up with a fool proof way of getting published. Look around you, Rivets. I give you my new Layout Product Review Room!!!

Rivets: Larry, almost any railroad magazine these days has a product review section. What makes you think they’ll publish yours?

Larry: Because my product reviews are based upon open house days or any time you show someone your layout. For example, what do you think that is?

Rivets: It looks like a thirty foot piece of wood with track on it on a forty degree incline with a brick at the bottom.

Larry: To the untrained eye, Rivets, to the untrained eye! This is my “downward motion gravitational pull banger tester.” You put a box car up here on this end and let ‘er go! It crashes into the brick at the bottom. This tests the durability of a box car when someone knocks it off the layout onto the concrete floor. Check this out over here!

Rivets: You mean the “Mr. Coffee” coffee maker?

Larry: Rivets! Come on! Notice how in place of the coffee pot, there is track. Once power is added, a timer kicks in and just as the engine goes through, the coffee lets go and

douses the engine. I call it the “Rollin’ Coffee Bath Test.” It tests the durability of the locomotive when someone spills coffee on it. It also tests the results of cola, lemonade and other ingestible liquids. It works with diesel or steam.

Rivets: Larry, I’m truly amazed.

Larry: And over here. This is ingenious, even if I do say so. This is my “Lateral Motion Erective Corrective Tractive Tester.” You take a piece of flex track and fasten one end to a piece of 1 x 3. On the right side of the other end you put spring tension to keep the track straight. On the left side you tie an old boot lace and pull the track into a curve shape. Then you run a locomotive through it and just at the right time, you let go and the track springs straight! This tests the effective traction when someone bumps your layout. It is good for locomotives and rolling stock.

Rivets: Okay, Larry, I give up. What is with the sling shots at the ends of this track?

Larry: Well, this is still in the planning stage really. It takes two people. They send a locomotive at each other with these here sling shot devices. It tests engine durability when two engines collide head on. It is for DCC users. I am thinking of calling it “Blind Mountain Running.” Ya know, somebody will have to want to publish me for this stuff. I have contacted eight magazines.

Rivets: Anyone show interest yet?

Larry: Not yet, but I have H-O-P-E in my heart! Want to see some more?

Rivets: No thanks, Larry, I think you have H-O-L-E in your head.



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In Appreciation....

Many thanks to our Sustaining and Patron members for 2002 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 website. A number next to a name indicates a second or subsequent donation.

2002 PATRONS

Carl Adkins	John Daniel	David Greer	Lou Jaquith
Mike Armstrong	John Deville	Wendell Greer	Ed Keyser
Pete Birdsong	Irv Frary	Robin Grider	Franklin Miller
John Bowling	Pat Gerstle	Ray Grosser	Bill Paulsell
Rex & Elaine Childers	John Gorman	Jeff Hinnrichs	Fred Plymale
			Mike Walter

2002 SUSTAINING MEMBERS

Richard Crane Ron Kercheval Ron Saylor

Support Our Local Hobby Shops

Our advertisers 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!!

Air Brush Adventures

Watching me airbrush is akin to watching the three stooges (pure slapstick). Tonight's episode was no different.

I forgot to verify that everything was put together correctly from my last disassembly so. After loading the cup up with a mixture of boxcar red and roof brown. I kicked up the air pressure to 30 lbs and pulled the trigger. A look of horror crossed my cat's face as the air unable to get through the hole in the end, bubbled up through the cup and landed on his head.

This sent my once tabby, now sort of reddish brown cat heading out the garage to the neighbors. I will apologize later for the mess he has to clean up after the cat rubs his head all over the leather seats of the newly restore 65 Mustang.

Needless to say the module I was working on, now has large spatters of, we'll call it mud, yeah that's it I meant to do that!

A trip over to the sink (The new house has one in the garage) to clean the brush, my clothes, the tools I had laying there, and all right the ball the cat was playing with as well!. I panic slightly as I am trying to remember does water cause acrylic paint to set as well as CA. I won't swear the answer is no, but I am now standing in the sink taking the various parts of the airbrush apart to get a "good" cleaning.

I am doing really well until I pull the trigger out in three pieces. Heck I didn't

even know that there were three pieces. So for the next 10 minutes. I am trying my best to reassemble the airbrush without going upstairs and getting the instructions. "No honey, I'm fine, this is simpler than the vacuum that I took apart and could never get back together".

I finally have managed to slip all the pieces together again and after using a little sandpaper to clean the excess paint off the needle (yeah, I know that now I will probably need a new one, but I couldn't find any steel wool and the only other thing to use was a rasp). I now fill the cup with a little water and paint the side of my hand to verify that I have vapor coming out of the brush.

Great! Add a little paint and begin painting rails. Now by this point the air pressure has crept up to about 40 psi. and I am noticing that for some reason everything is starting to actually work. Even the paint usage seems reasonable (Let me tell you, I can suck one of those badger paint cups dry in under two seconds).

For some reason the paint is hitting the rails almost dry, I don't have splatter, and I have been using the same cup of paint for the last two minutes. That's when I notice that the paint is coming out of the front of the airbrush as about 30 degrees below the face of the brush.

Totally forgetting that I don't have an empty cup of paint I tilt the brush up and over my head to look at why the paint is coming out at a strange angle. OK now I'm going to rub MY head on the seats of the Mustang.

I sit back not sure whether to laugh, cry or what, take a few deep breaths and fill the cup up again and finish my paint job. I go in the house and give my wife that "don't even ask" scowl and head off to the shower. Later, after the kids are in bed for the night I go take a look. Not bad. I guess it is worth keeping the airbrush for another day.



(Contributed by Pete Birdsong. Written by Nick Gray and published in the Yahoo Groups list: N-Scale:)

Notes from Around

Pete Birdsong has two "publications" on the MCR website: a photo tour of his layout, and a how-to article (based on the workshop given for Division 10 on November 3rd.). See the web site at: www.midcentral-region-nmra.org/index.htm

On Saturday, Dec. 7th from 11:00 am until 4:00 pm Robin Grider's prize winning modular layout will be on display at the Old Fashion Musical Christmas located in the gym on the "old" Wilmore Elementary School in Wilmore Kentucky. It is located on Highway 29 on the south end of town on the right hand side of the street. Visit the show and see Robin's great layout!

There is a new Yahoo Groups list for 'Model Train Tools'. It is really fast-growing (it has achieved over 400 members in less than two days, I think). You can subscribe to the group at: groups.yahoo.com/group/traintools/

Also, some free railroad software (layout design, train scheduling - Pete B. has been using the latter for years to create the operating schedules for his layout) from Steve DePalma. Get it at: home.earthlink.net/~dpssvs/SoftwareDir/software.html

Don't miss the **Blue Grass Railroad Club's** layouts at the Horse Park Southern Lights show. The exhibit is available for viewing from Nov 22 to Dec 23. Many of Division 10's members are active in this event. Please stop by, enjoy the layouts and say Hi.



Call For Articles

Your newsletter editor needs your help. In order to keep the Lantern interesting to all we need to include articles covering all aspects of railroad modeling. From Z scale to garden railroads, from engine building to tree making we need to know how you get the most out of the

hobby. If you have product reviews, modeling tips, how-to articles, or horror stories, we want you to share them with the rest of the Lantern readers.

Send your articles to John Gorman, jgorman@earthling.net or 143 Che-nault Road, Lexington, KY 40502



AP Explained (Continued from page 1)

you only need to complete seven of the categories. The various categories will encourage you to try out all aspects of the hobby and hence broaden your interests and skills. The AP also rewards participation in the local and national organizations. In the coming months I will give an overview of each of the categories. The first step in the AP is the Golden Spike Award. If you have a layout you may already be qualified for this award. Stay tuned next month for details on this first step to becoming a Master Modeler. If you just can't wait until then, all the details can be found on the NMRA national web site under Achievement Program.

-Dave Greer

AP Chairman

Pictures From The Division 8 Layout Tour



A mountainside scene from Jim Harrington's HO Green Valley and Western layout



Another scene from Jim's excellent layout. It will be featured in Model Railroading in the near future..



You too can plan for scenery that is realistic. This is what can be accomplished on only a 12 inch shelf.
-Fritz

Scenery Planning (Continued from page 1)

give a fair amount of time to the various tricks that modelers use to build depth and realism into the layout.

At the conclusion of the meeting we will be viewing **Mr. David Greer's** N scale DOO Valley lines. David is an accomplished modeler and has a fine layout that you will enjoy. Those of you who know David or his modeling will certainly want to attend.

-Fritz Dutro



Coal Bucket Junction on an Div. 8 module



One of the K-sons N-Trak modules

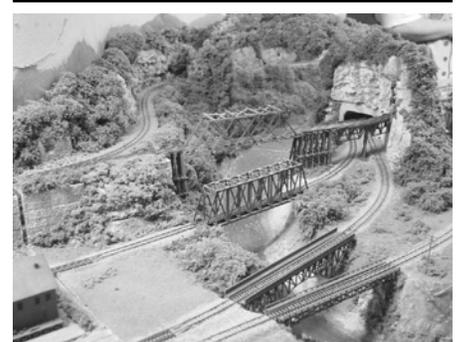


Somebody tell Bob he has enough engines

Superintendent's Message (Cont'd from page 1)

one day we saw about 10 excellent layouts and met some very nice people. Closer to home, we have presented two good programs in the last two monthly meetings and we are planning more for you in the future. In addition to the meetings, we are working on some other exciting activities for you. We miss those of you who can't attend. If you have a particular subject of interest that you would like us to explore, feel free to contact me or any officer, board member or committee chairman. We would be glad to consider it as others may have the same interest. We are looking forward to seeing you at the next meeting.

-Bill



Another fantastic K-sons N-Trak module. Look for them at the GATS in Louisville



A scene from Jerry Ashley's layout. His rolling stock is extremely detailed.



Bob Frankrone's HO Louisville Southern Line is eye candy for the avid modeler.



AROUND THE BEND

MON	DAY	EVENT	PLACE/TIME	PROGRAM	TOUR	CONTEST
NOV thru DEC	22 23	BGRRC	Horse Park Southern Lights Exhibit			
DEC	1	MCR DIV 10	Beaumont Library, Lexington, Sunday, 2:00 pm	Fritz Dutro: Scenic Theory	David Greer: DOO Line	Flats/Gondolas with Loads
DEC	13	BGRRC	Horse Park Meeting			
JAN 2003	5	MCR DIV 10	Tates Creek Library, Lexington, Sunday, 2:00 pm	Pat Gerstle: Laying Track	Alan Brock	Houses
JAN 2003	10	BGRRC	Meadowthorpe Community Center, Friday, 7:30 pm	Richard Rink: Railfanning in the East		
FEB 2003	2	MCR DIV 10	Beaumont Library, Lexington, Sunday, 2:00 pm	Layout design & track planning roundtable: Pat Gerstle, Franklin Miller and Fritz Dutro	Mike Armstrong	TBA
FEB 2003	14	BGRRC	Meadowthorpe Community Center, Friday, 7:30 pm	Wes Ross: Vintage 16mm Movie		
MAR 2003	14	BGRRC	Meadowthorpe Community Center, Friday, 7:30 pm	Bob Larger: DCC control		
MAR 2003	21-23	MCR	Railroad Prototype Modelers East Pittsburgh, PA, Holiday Inn at Exit 6, Pa. Turnpike	Contact Dick Flock, 724 850-8882 Email rflock@worldnet.att.net. Clinics on prototype info		
APR 2003	11	BGRRC	Meadowthorpe Community Center, Friday, 7:30 pm	Bill Paulsell: Resin Casting		
APR 2003	24-27	MCR DIV 7 CONV	Springdale Best Western, Rt 4 and I-275, Cincinnati, OH	Contact Charlie Atkinson, atrain@juno.com, or Div website: http://www.cincy-div7.org/		
JUL 2003	13-19	NMRA Nat'l Conv.	Toronto, Canada	See Website for full details: http://www.ml2003.com/pages/home.html		
MAY 2004	13-16	MCR Conv.	Four Points Sheraton, Cranberry, PA	Contact Div 2 for more information		
JUL 2004	4-11	NMRA Nat'l Conv	Seattle, WA	See Website for full details: http://www.nmra2004.org/		
MAY 2005	12-15	MCR Conv	Comfort Inn, Austinburg, OH	Contact: Matt Kross e-mail mkross@earthlink.net		
JUL 2005	TBD	NMRA Nat'l Conv	TBD, Cincinnati			

Next Meeting:
Beaumont Library
Lexington,
Sunday, December 1,
at 2:00 pm

Clinic:
Fritz Dutro on
Scenic Theory

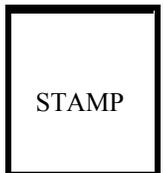
Tour:
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Bring & Brag:
Flats/Gons with Loads



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