



The Lantern



Volume 5 Issue 09

Division 10, Mid Central Region

September, 2003



**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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Notes from Fritz

The touring season has come to a close this past month with a very successful tour of both Bob Lawson's and Robin Grider's layouts in Danville. We were triply treated to great food, great layouts and great weather for this years trip. Those of you who missed this years outing, and from the turnout I would say fewer this year than last, need to put next years trip to Danville on your schedule. Thanks again to all our hosts for their hospitality.

The fall schedule for clinics has shaped up largely to the efforts of Fred Plymale. We are going to have three nationally known modelers, clinicians and authors to present to our club to kick

(Continued on page 4)

Message From The Superintendent

Many thanks to Bob Lawson and Robin Grider for being hosts at their respective layouts at our August meeting. The layouts were superb and were a real challenge to the rest of us to do as well. (After viewing them, I think that I might try another hobby) It was an excellent trip and we missed those of you who could not make it. Bob Lawson's layout was recently featured in the Model Railroader. Thanks again Bob and Robin.

After our September meeting, you will have an opportunity to see another aspect of model railroading - Charlie and Ruth Hamrin's garden railroad. This will be another "don't miss" meeting.

Speaking of layouts. Do any of you have a layout or know of anyone who has a layout who might want to share it with the members after our regular

(Continued on page 4)

NMRA Achievement Program Explained!

This month we will look at the Model Railroader Engineer - Electrical category of the Achievement Program. This category has a lot of options you can elect to complete, which makes it somewhat confusing but not really harder. The main object is to demonstrate your understanding of electrical systems that can be used on a model railroad. There are six requirements for the MRE-Electrical. The first is to construct a layout that is capable of simultaneously running at least two mainline trains in either direction. This layout must, have at least five electrical blocks, a way to turn locomotives, a yard with three or more tracks and a switching lead, facilities for storing two or more locomotives, and a power supply with meters and current protection.

The second requirement is to demonstrate the electrical operation of a least three items out of a list of eleven types

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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: Hey, Larry! How’s the garden railroad comin’? Got any track laid yet?

Larry: You bet! Come on out an’ see!

Rivets: Holy Smoke, Larry! Look at all the plants you got growin’ everywhere! I can hardly see the track! Why don’t ya get in there and trim away some of the plants?! They have taken over everything!

Larry: Because.

Rivets: What do you mean because?

Larry: Well, Rivets, there are things in there that you don’t want to know about and I ain’t about to go in there!

Rivets: Larry, it’s a garden railroad for cryin’ out loud. What could possibly be in there? Why not begin with this curve!

Larry: Because...listen...do ya hear that? Take a deep breath through your nose. Do ya smell that?

Rivets: Hear what? Smell what?

Larry: The rattle and the odor of natural gas. Rivets, that area is full of rattle snakes and copperheads.

Rivets: Larry what are you talkin’ about. I hear nothin’ and I smell nothin’!

Larry: Rivets, I even seen ‘em...about eighteen inches long, two yellow stripes down its back! About three quarter inches thick.

Rivets: Larry, that is a garden snake. They won’t hurt ya.

Larry: Oh, yeah, right. I ain’t gonna find out! And over there are these fat little brown furry stripped rats!

Rivets: Larry, those are chipmunks.

Larry: Well, they’re livin’ in my tunnel and won’t go away.

Rivets: Run a train through it. They’ll get out of the way.

Larry: Man, Rivets, what is wrong with you. That could get pretty bloody.

Rivets: Yeah, you’re right, Larry. A chipmunk is gonna stand in the middle of the track and stare at the head lamp of your 2-8-0. Come on, get a grip!

Larry: And over there! There is a wolverine livin’ in that corner. I saw its fur!

Rivets: Yeah. There it is right now. It looks like a rabbit to me. Larry, ya let your imagination run away with ya! Get in there and trim those plants. Get a train runnin’!

Larry: I tell ya, Rivets! It’s a jungle in there!

Rivets: Larry, it ain’t no jungle. You have just made a place for the critters to live.

Larry: Well, the only critters I want in my garden are made by Aristocraft!

Rivets: Well, don’t forget about the critters in your head, that is, the bats in your belfry!





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In Appreciation....

Many thanks to our Sustaining and Patron members for 2003 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.

2003 PATRONS

Mike Armstrong	Pete Birdsong	Alan Brock
Howard Coleman	John Deville	Fritz Dutro
John Gorman	Wendell Greer	Robin Grider
Ray & Renee Grosser	Lou Jaquith	Ron Kercheval
Skip Keyser	Bob Lawson	Bill Paulsell
Fred Plymale	David Reed	Bill Robbins
Ron Saylor	Mike Walter	

2003 SUSTAINING MEMBERS

Richard Crane	Phil Ditchen
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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!!

NMRA

2005 Convention Info

I know that 2004 isn't here yet. But it looks like Cincinnati has hit the ground running with their convention plans. Have a look.

<http://www.cl2005.com>

Super's Message (Continued from page 1)
Sunday meeting? We are looking for more layout tours. If you know of any please contact me or Fritz Dutro.

Our fall train show is getting closer. I would like all of you to mark your calendar for November 15th. That's the day!! Our first show was very successful, and this one should even be better. We are looking forward to having our first club car for sale. It will be a Southern 40' box car-two versions. One suitable for 1937 and one suitable for 1952-1954. And for you gourmet fans, the Knights of Columbus have promised to have plenty of food. We will need volunteers to help Friday night and on Saturday. If you can help out, let one of our officers or Board of Directors know. Tables will be available for those of you with items for sale. We expect to have many vendors there again.

-Bill

AP Explained (Continued from page 1)
of track. The list includes a, crossing, crossover, double crossover, several types of switches – slip, gauge separation, double junction, three way, gauntlet, spring, and overhead wire. These can be commercial products and all you have to demonstrate is that you know how to make them operate electrically by running a locomotive through them.

The third requirement is to wire and demonstrate the electrical operation of items other than track that are used in model railroading. The requirements call for you to pick three items from a list of twenty plus items. The list covers the gamut from electrical turnout position indication to a full CTC system, from cab control to constant light-

ing, from momentum throttles to animated theater lights. Basically anything electrical that you use on a layout it on the list. Most of the items on the list can be commercially made; some must be home made. For the complete list of items, see the Achievement program site on the NMRA's national web page.

The fourth requirement is to draw a schematic of the propulsion circuitry of your model railroad. This is a track diagram that needs to show rail gaps, feeders, speed and direction control circuits, electrical switches, and power supplies. The schematic does not need to show turnout control wiring, signaling systems, etc., only the propulsion circuitry. If you have redundant circuits you only need to show a schematic of a typical circuit.

The fifth requirement is to schematically draw the electrical circuitry of six of the previously listed items. For example, show how a turnout is wired, with electrical gaps shown along with feeder wires and the polarity of each rail segment when the turnout is in each position. Again, the object is to show that you understand the electrical principals of how these items work.

The sixth and last requirement is common to all AP categories, to fill out a Statement of Qualification form, and include a track plan of your layout, a description of the items you demonstrated, and what commercial parts were used. None of the electrical equipment that you demonstrated needs to be Merit judged, but it does need to be witnessed that it works by an AP judge.

As you can see the Model Railroad Engineer – Electrical category does require a lot of paper work but if you have an average size layout you likely have completed most if not all the electrical requirements for this certificate. So if your interested, get out some paper and give it a try. To make it a little easier, I have examples of previous entries that you can review to help get the wheels rolling. Your Div 10 AP chairman.

- Dave

Notes from Fritz (Continued from page 1)
off the fall and winter modeling season. Bob Lawson will show us his award winning techniques for dioramas and structure placement in October, Sam Swanson will visit from Cincinnati in November to demonstrate how to finish and detail models, and Miles Hale will make a trip over from Louisville in December for a clinic on mold making and casting small detail parts. A finer line up of clinics could not be found anywhere. Thanks again Fred.

This month our own Chris Cord will be presenting a clinic on operations dispatching. With several railroads in the Lexington area experiencing regular operating sessions and many more considering it this will be a timely clinic. Our layout tour will be outside at the home of Charlie and Ruth Hamrin to view the G scale garden railroad. Hope for good weather.

Beginning this month I would like to have those of you attending the clinic to bring along your most recently completed modeling effort. I would like to set aside about ten minutes each meeting for those in attendance to show off what they are working on and to give a brief 30 second spiel on what it is they did Special to the kit, etc. This is something separate from bring and brag and will not be judged, it is simply an effort for all of us to see more modeling. The topic is open to all classifications, engines, structures, cars etc.

So bring along that boxcar you just finished decaling and tell us how you did it. Looking forward to seeing you all at the meeting.

-Fritz

Notes from Pete

Just got the Div 2 newsletter, with a front page article on a Yahoo Group for the MCR. Go to:

http://groups.yahoo.com/group/nmra_mcr/

You will have to join (no cost) to get the full value from this group.

-Pete

The Kingpin

Mid Central Region
National Model
Railroad Association

Third Quarter, 2003

President's Message

by *Howard Smith*

The Spring Convention in Cincinnati has come and gone and I for one had a great time. Everyone I talked to had a great time also. Charlie Atkinson and the Convention Committee from Division 7 can be very proud of a job well done. We can all look forward to the 2005 National Convention in Cincinnati.

The Mid Central Region election is over and the new slate of officers are hard at work to keep the Region's leadership role within the NMRA. We cannot however, do the job without the help of all the Divisions in the region. The programs provided at the Division level are the foundation for a strong MCR and NMRA. If you have not attended a Divisional meeting lately, get to the next one because you don't know what you are missing.

I would like to thank Marty Vaughn, past MCR President and Dick Flock, past MCR Treasurer for their many years of service to the MCR. These men continue to serve the NMRA membership in the case of Marty as National Contest Chairman and Dick as the Pittsburgh 2004 MCR Spring Convention Chairman. Thanks again fellows for all the hard work.

As of this writing I have visited meetings in two Divisions. It is my intention to visit all the Divisions and meet as many of you as possible. So don't be surprised if I attend a meeting in your Division soon.

The NMRA Long Range Plan is available on the MCR web site. I urge each of you to read the plan. There are many good points about it, but if you have questions about the LRP please e-mail me or Mike Brestel via the NMRA web site. Mike needs to know your concerns and ideas so he can pass them along to the NMRA BOD.

The next MCR convention will be "Three Rivers Transfer" in Pittsburgh May 13-16, 2004 sponsored by Division 2. Please contact Dick Flock through the Division 2 web site for information. I for one look forward to be in Pittsburgh again for another great convention.

Remember Model Railroading Is Fun.

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Trustee's Message

by Mike Brestel

Greetings to all!

I'm about two weeks past deadline this time (so what else is new?), so I'll try to be as brief as possible. Sorry, Judy!

I just returned from the Toronto convention, and I'm sure that by now you've heard all about what a great one it was. Most of what was right with the convention was the result of the great work by the Toronto Convention Committee, who took each problem and obstacle set in their way as a personal challenge to do it better than anyone else, and to maintain a positive attitude throughout. I hope we can do half as well here in the MCR in 2005.

I have four major items to report from the BOT meeting. First, the Board accepted a gift of \$30,000 (out of an eventual gift of \$45,000) from the MCoR and two of its regions. This money represents some of the profits from the Kansas City and the St. Louis national conventions. It will be set aside in a restricted account and will be used as seed money for various moneymaking projects by National. This is a much needed gift, and I'm sure we are all grateful to the MCoR for their generosity.

Second, the Trustees accepted the gifts of the use of two DCC patents, one from Berndt Lenz and one from Stan Ames. These patents will allow decoders built to NMRA standards and holding conformance warrants to receive signals from the throttles (they already do that) and to send information back. This is a major step forward in DCC design, and we should all be very grateful to Berndt and Stan for allowing us to use the fruits of their labor. I'm sure we'll all be hearing much more about this in the near future, as decoders using two-way communication are released.

Third, the BOT recommended that the new Regulations (a combination of Constitution and By-Laws, renamed to satisfy new Ohio corporation law) be sent to the membership for action on the next national ballot. These are the ones that we've been working on for over ten years that when passed will allow us to implement the Long Range Plan. As Chair of the LRP Committee, I ran the BOT meeting for the four hours needed to get through the Regulations (you'll see why when you read them on the National website), and I have seldom been more exhausted in my life!

Fourth, President Pollock has appointed a committee to completely revamp the NMRA's member database and software to get it to do what we need it to do. This is what was supposed to have been done with our money a few years ago, but for a combination of reasons the effort and results were insufficient. The current management team has realized from the beginning that something had to be done to fix the database so that the LRP could be fully implemented, and it looks like that will finally happen. Given the current team's record over the past three years, I expect this new effort to be successful.

Financial reports for the first nine months of this fiscal year show that there is reason to expect that we will not lose money this year, despite the horrid news resulting from the cancellation of the Toronto National Train Show and the reduced attendance at the convention. We won't know for sure what the year-end will be until the convention is settled, a process that takes several months, but everyone is hopeful that this is the year that we turn the corner financially.

Allen Pollock, John Roberts, Tom Draper, the paid NMRA staff, and countless NMRA volunteers have been working like crazy to turn things around, and it certainly will be nice if all their efforts come to fruition this year. Thanks to all of you who are working together to make the NMRA a "must-join" organization for all model railroaders

As always, I am available to you by e-mail, mail, and phone. My numbers are on the masthead of the *KingPin*. Feel free to write or call. I'll be happy to hear from you.

Web Master Report

by Ivan W Baugh

Our Mid-Central Region web site continues to have a good stream of visitors. We have topped 5,260 visitors as I write this column. Our single day largest number of hits is 153. We have had a number of days over 100 hits.

One thing that encourages visitors to come to our site is the things many of you have sent to me to include on the web site. Pages that enjoy frequent visits include the Useful Web Pages under Links, the online *The KingPin*, layout tours, prototype railroads, and the Scout Merit Badge materials.

Do you have a favorite web page that you believe would interest others? Please send it to your webmaster. Have you prepared a layout tour for your pride and joy? Send it to the webmaster. You will earn Author points toward Master Model Railroader certification.

This is your web site. As webmaster I have the joy of putting it together for all model railroaders to use. I count on each of you to help us continue to have a web site model railroaders will want to visit often. iwbaugh@insightbb.com

A P Report

by Frank Kock

MASTER MODEL RAILROADER

	Craig Sonnen (L 5562)	MMR 323
00	Golden Spike Ron Gribler (108082) John Gafney (107616) Terry Powell (126551)	
03	Master Builder - Structures Craig Sonnen (L 5562)	MCR 640
05	Model Railroad Engineer - Civil Jim Rollwage (122919) Craig Sonnen (L 5562)	MCR 638 MCR 639
07	Chief Dispatcher Jack Campbell (118815)	MCR 636
10	Model Railroad Author Jack Campbell (118815) Paul Maciulewicz (106478)	MCR 635 MCR 637

MASTER MODEL RAILROADER-Other Regions

Northeastern Region	Robert Hamm (091024)	MMR 322
Rocky Mountain Region	Robert Baden (L 4758)	MMR 324

Newsletter Deadline

Deadline for the second quarter newsletter is **October 5, 2003**. Please send your articles and announcements to: KingPin Editor, 6322 Mid Pines Court, Grove City, OH 43123-9505 or e-mail to logandj@earthlink.net.

Treasurer's Report

by Judy Logan

		April 25, 2003 — July 15, 2003	
Balance on Hand	April 25, 2002		21,539.62
Income		952.97	
Expenses		(21.79)	
Balance on Hand	July 15, 2003	22,470.80	
Checking		2,235.68	
Business Saver		8.84	
Checking		846.60	
Certificate of Deposits		15,500.00	
Disaster Fund CD		3,850.18	
	Total Funds	22,470.80	
Inventory			
Mobile Home Kits 9 @ \$11		99.00	
Mountaineer Convention Cars 24 @ \$7.20		172.80	
Mountaineer Conv Shirts 17 @ \$5.00		85.00	
Inventory Value		356.80	
	Total Net Worth		22,827.60

Bring n' Brag August, 2003

We had a great turnout for our Bring n' Brag this month – what better place to have it than Bob Lawson's incredible layout! However, your Bring n' Brag chair found out that Ray Grosser is NOT the only Soo Line fan in our area. I wrongly assumed that the two excellent Soo Line steam locomotive photos that tied for first in last month's Bring n' Brag were Ray's. They were Randy Coffman's instead. Randy, my sincerest apologies! Please see the corrected Scores chart for this month.

This month's category was on-line structures (not including stations). We had six entries in the modeling division: Ray Grosser entered a great looking scratch built Soo Line coaling station complete with original plans, Fritz Dutro had an amazingly detailed small coal dealer diorama with W&LE hoppers, Bill Robbins had a sharp looking Farmers Cooperative grain elevator diorama (His wife made the tarps for the grain trucks!), David Reed had a neat looking small section house and also a warehouse with nicely weathered tin roof, and Chris Cord entered a great looking modern ADM grain elevator. The vote for first was close with Fritz' diorama edging out Ray's spectacular coaling station. David's warehouse took third.

There were three photo entries: Fritz Dutro had an interesting layout photo of a passing train taken from a railfan's perspective, Randy Coffman had a brilliant shot of a Union Pacific freight headed by a wide cab unit, and David Reed had an entertaining album full of shots taken over the years. This time, Fritz was edged out by Randy for first and David took third.

Congratulations and a big thanks to all who entered! Award certificates will be handed out at the next meeting on September 7. It was great to see six modeling entries this time! As I have said before, don't be bashful. See you next month!

-Ron Kercheval

2003 Bring n' Brag Scores

MODELS

High to Low or Tie	Aug.	YTD
Fritz Dutro (1st)	5	32
Mike Walter		23
Bill Robbins	2	16
Howard Coleman		9
Bob Lawson		9
Pete Birdsong		5
Mike Baskette		4
Chris Cord	2	4
Pat Gerstle		4
Ray Grosser (2nd)	4	4
David Reed (3rd) [2 entries]	4	4
Peter Bourne		3

PHOTOS

High to Low or Tie	Aug.	YTD
Fritz Dutro (2nd)	4	31
Randy Coffman (1st)	5	30
Howard Coleman		6
Bill Robbins		6
Pete Birdsong		5
Mike Baskette		4
David Reed (3rd)	3	3

Bring n' Brag Schedule for 2003

Sept. - Diesel Locomotives

Oct. - Commercial Structures: Industrial, businesses, municipal.

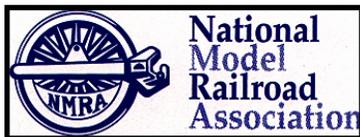
Nov. - Passenger Cars

Dec. - Open Loads: Flat Cars, Gondolas and Intermodal

Bring n' Brag Error – August 2003

Your Bring n' Brag chair assumed the winning photos in last month's contest were by Ray Grosser. They were Randy Coffman's instead. My apologies to both parties! Please see my article for details.

-Ron Kercheval



AROUND THE BEND

MON	DAY	EVENT	PLACE/TIME	PROGRAM	TOUR	CONTEST
SEP	7	MCR DIV 10	Beaumont Library, Lexington off of Harrodsburg Road Sunday, 2:00 pm	Chris Cord on Operations Dispatching	Charlie & Ruth Hamrin's "G" Scale Outdoor Garden Layout	Diesel Locomotives
SEP	12	BGRRC	Meadowthorpe Community Ctr., Lexington, KY Friday, 7:30 pm	Bob Larger on DCC and A short presentation by Wes Ross and Doug Bagby		
OCT	5	MCR DIV 10	Eagle Creek Library off of Richmond Road Sunday, 2:00 pm	Bob Lawson Dioramas and putting build- ings into the ground	To Be Announced	Commercial Structures: Industrial, businesses & municipal.
OCT	10	BGRRC	Meadowthorpe Community Ctr. Lexington, KY Friday, 7:30 pm	A film presentation by Wes Ross		
NOV	2	MCR DIV 10	Beaumont Library, Lexington off of Harrodsburg Road Sunday, 2:00 pm	Sam Swanson on Finishing and detailing models	To Be Announced	Passenger Cars
NOV	15	Division 10 Annual Fall Train Show	Knights of Columbus 1604 Versailles Road Lexington Kentucky	Watch This Space for More Information		
DEC	1	MCR DIV 10	To Be Announced	Miles Hale Mold making and casting small	To Be Announced	Open Loads: Flat Cars, Gondolas and Intermodal.
MAY 2004	13-16	MCR Convention	Four Points Sheraton, Cranberry, PA	Contact Div 2 for more informa- tion		
JULY 2004	4-11	NMRA Nat'l Convention	Seattle, WA	See Website for full details: http://www.nmra2004.org/		
MAY 2005	12-15	MCR Convention	Comfort Inn, Austinburg, OH	Contact: Matt Kross e-mail mkross@earthlink.net		
JULY 2005	TBD	NMRA Nat'l Convention	TBD, Cincinnati			

Editors' Note - I will publish a complete Division 10 roster next month. If you do not want your information included please contact me (see front page for my address) before September 21, 2003. *John*

**Next Meeting:
Beaumont Library
September 7
Sunday, 2:00 pm**

**Program:
Chris Cord
on
Operations Dispatching**

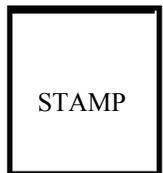
**Tour:
Charlie & Ruth Hamrin's
"G" Scale
Outdoor Garden Layout**

**Bring & Brag:
Diesel
Locomotives**



The Lantern

Published most months by Division 10
Mid Central Region
National Model Railroad Association
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