



The Lantern



Volume 6 Issue 06

Division 10, Mid Central Region

June, 2004



**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

I want to thank Randy Coffman for an excellent, well-organized and informative presentation on photography at our May meeting. He and his wife, Lynn, also brought some of their excellent clamps for the members to see. They are helpful in kit and scratch building.

Our thanks also go to Mike Armstrong, his wife Mary and Chef Mark Hunt for hosting and cooking food for our cook-out at Mike's house. It was well attended by our members and their families. For those of you who could not make it, you missed some great food. Mike also has a really nice garden railroad.

L&N Days will be held at Berea on
(Continued on page 5)

MCR Regional News Flash

Each year the MCR Board of Directors selects one member to receive the prestigious "Directors Award" for outstanding service to the NMRA and its members. It is a "Service to People" award rather than a modeling award.

This year's award was presented to a very deserving and surprised Bob Lawson from Danville Kentucky.

Although Bob took another outstanding diorama to the convention, he had decided not to enter it in any competition because he has won many modeling awards in the past and wanted to open up the contest for newer modelers to win. Bob has graciously hosted layout tours and cookouts in Danville every year for our division. He has also

(Continued on page 5)

Operations Clinic and Demonstration

The clinic will consist of a Power Point presentation of 25 picture and data slides on what we do at our OPS sessions, the tools and procedures we use, and the sequence of events at a session. Handout copies of the slides will be provided, and copies of the Operations Guide pamphlet and other materials will be passed around for people to look at. Some of the items covered will

(Continued on page 5)

Notes From Fritz

A look at the calendar tells me that summer is near and that usually means a slow down in modeling projects for most of us. As my modeling efforts stay fairly constant throughout the year I thought I would share some ideas this month and the next few (or until I tire

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Witless vs. Clueless

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



Created by 'Railroad' Pete Birdsong
Written by Mike Armstrong



“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	Ron Kercheval
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

Larry: Hey, Rivets! I'm glad ya dropped by! I could use some help. I'm tearin' out my garden railroad!

Rivets: Larry, ya worked six months last year gettin' that thing ready. And now you're gonna tear it out?!

Larry: Rivets, relax! It ain't as bad as ya think! I have a new plan. I am basin' my garden railroad on my HO railroad.

Rivets: As usual, Larry, ya lost me.

Larry: Well, look at my hands! I ain't sayin' I was a sissy-boy or nothin' like that, but these hands used to be smooth and soft. They were a writer's hands, a railroad writer's hands.

Rivets: Again, Larry, what are ya talkin' 'bout?

Larry: Garden railroadin' is too much like real railroadin'! I mean the diggin' begins with a trench for stone and track, but it doesn't end there. Then there is diggin' for plantin' plants. Then there is diggin' for weeds and then there is diggin' up the same plants to thin 'em and separate bulbs; and then there is more diggin' to replant the plants; and by the time ya done all that, then ya gotta dig weeds. It is one never endin' cycle and my mama didn't raise me to be a circular digger.

Rivets: Larry, what is a circular digger?

Larry: I just told ya! It is doin' the diggin' that won't stay dug! And pullin' weeds and re-ballastin' the track after a heavy rain. And every year I have to re-level the track from the winter freeze and thaw. Well, here is the answer: seventy five yards of concrete!

Rivets: You mean ya just poured concrete over everything?

Larry: Rivets, dream a little man. Think about our HO layouts. What is the one main difference between them and a garden railroad?

Rivets: Ya mean besides size, the out-of-doors, price, and a whole other list that I could name?

Larry: I'll tell ya, Rivets. The main difference, as I see it, is that an HO layout doesn't have any diggin' or plantin' or weed pullin' and re-plantin'. So, I have poured this concrete base for my garden railroad.

Rivets: Larry, how can it be a garden railroad on a cement slab without a garden?

Larry: That is the beauty of it, Rivets. I was in a craft store the other day. My fingernails was full o' dirt, my back was achin' from circular diggin' and my knees were sore from crawlin' around weedin' and like a revelation on the mountain top, it all came so clear.

Rivets: What came so clear?

Larry: Plastics! Rivets, plastics! In that craft store I saw plastic flowers! I am gonna sit plastic flowers all around on that cement slab and have my garden railroad all neat and clean just like my HO. And what's more, I can change the configuration of the plants any time I want in a matter of minutes.

Rivets: Larry, I just don't know what to say.

Larry: I am hopin' that one day they'll name a plastic flower after me.

Rivets: Now, I know what to say Larry, maybe they will call it the “Flowering Idiot”.



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In Recognition....

Many thanks to our Patrons and Sustaining 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 website. Division 10 receives NO monetary support from the NMRA. Division 10 is recognized by the US government as a 501c3 corporation and your donations may be tax deductible.

2004 PATRONS

Alan Brock	Ed Butcher	John Deville
Irv Frary	Richard Frye	John Gorman
Ray & Renee	Bill Hammer	Mark & Catherine
Lou Jaquith	Ron Kercheval	Skip Keyser
Bob Lawson	Bill Paulsell	Fred Plymale
Bill Robbins	Ron Saylor	Mike Walter

2004 SUSTAINING MEMBERS

Phil Ditchen

Scale Reproductions

3073 Breckinridge Lane McMahan Plaza
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(502) 459-5849 brian@sri.win.net

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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!!

Super's Message (Continued from page 1)

June 5th. Go to the train station in the "old town". Our n-gagers will have an operating train layout.

Our club car sale has ended. It was very successful. We sold 94 cars.

Don't forget November 13th is our next train show at the Knights of Columbus.

June 6th is another "can't miss" program. Pete Birdsong will talk to us about operations and then give us a tour of his n-scale layout. Some of you will be surprised by what else he has in his basement.

Contributions of \$20 or \$10 are still very helpful in offsetting our club costs.

While there is still plenty of time, I would like all of you to give some thought about our officers and board of directors. We will be asking you to vote in September. These are all two year positions and all of them will need to be filled. This will be a chance to continue to make our club strong and active in model railroading. Current officers may elect to run again, but we invite newcomers to seek an office also.

Division 10 Officers and Board consists of:

Superintendent
Asst. Super./Program Chairman
Secretary
Treasurer
Board of Directors (3)

Committee chairmen are appointed by the Board. Positions are:

Achievement Program
Advertising
Community Activities
Contests
Company Store
Conventions & Shows
Editor & Webmaster
Estate Liquidations
Member Aid
Membership
Photographer

I hope to see you all at the June 6th meeting at Eagle Creek Library in Lexington.

-Bill

Operations Clinic (Continued from page 1)

be: Crew Lounge; OPs jobs; Details on Dispatcher, Engineer and Hostler roles; The Dispatch Board; Block, Track and Turnout Numbering and Signs; The Train Schedule; Fast Time; Throttles and Radios; Train Orders; Switch Lists; Hostler Schedule; Crew Assignment; Bad Order Log and Sources & Alternatives for OPS tools.

The demo/tour will feature a live but simple OPS session with a small crew demonstrating and answering questions. Pete will also be answering questions in the crew lounge. His ON30 layout under construction will also be on display, and light refreshments will be provided in the crew lounge. A map and other instructions will be provided at the meeting.

Pete is really excited about sharing the fun of operations, and hopes to see all of you at the clinic and tour.



News Flash (Continued from page 1)



MRC Director's Award winner Bob Lawson

hosted Div. 8 from Louisville several years and Div. 7 from Cincinnati will tour his layout later this year.

During the convention, one contestant asked Bob what was his motivation for modeling. His response was, "I model to meet people".

Congratulations to Bob Lawson for his first non-modeling award from his fellow Division 10 members and the MCR board.

-Fred

Notes from Fritz (Continued from page 1)

of pontificating) as to how to get more enjoyment out of your hobby year round.

There has been a tremendous amount of temptation to those of us modeling the steam era recently because of the new offerings from Life-like, Broadway Limited, Spectrum, and other manufacturers (and I am sure the diesel guys know all about it also with p2k, genesis and others). It seems that there is no lack of items competing for your hobby dollars including all that new ready to run stuff. A trip to the hobby shop can certainly test your restraint.

I am certainly not immune to the new stuff and the new Spectrum 4-6-0 that sits on my workbench is testament to that. Fortunately for me and my hobby budget I found a way to combat these urges years ago. I found that by dating my railroad to a certain time (1928) and place (southeast Ohio) and setting certain restrictions on rolling stock (nothing larger than a 2-8-0, no freight cars longer than 40' and little or no passenger equipment) I have been cured of both of my hobby problems, gotta-have-it-is and one-of-everything-osis. Whenever I go into a store or look through the magazine or catalog the first thing I ask when confronted with the latest and greatest offering is "Will this fit into the parameters I have set for my layout?" If the answer is no it becomes an easy pass for me. If it is yes then I've got to figure out a way to sneak it into the house.

One of the niceties of placing restrictions on yourself is that it keeps the number of rectangular storage dust collectors (unbuilt kit boxes) from taking up too much space in the basement (more on that next month).

So the next time you see me at the hobby store not buying much be mindful that it's not that I'm cheap, I'm just looking for the right kit.

Until next month or the recall election....

-Fritz

Division 10 Model Railroad Data Base

This month we will see Pete Birdsong's N Scale Chesapeake & McKenna Ridge Railroad. We will be treated to a demonstration of Model Railroad Operations as done all over the US. Pete also has an On30 railroad under construction. It will be featured in another issue of the Lantern.

Pete Birdsong



Chesapeake & McKenna Ridge

Scale:..... N (1:160)

Size:..... 3.5' x 45'

Railroads:.. Chessie, L&N and Southern lines

Location:.. Kentucky

Period:..... Mid Nineties

Style:..... Loop to Loop with Single Track Main

Height:..... 42"

Benchwork: Luan over L-girder frames and joists

Roadbed:.. Cork

Trackage:.. Code 80

Mainline:.. 150 Feet

Control:..... Digitrax Radio Super Chief

Roster:..... 12 Modern Diesels and 6 Older Diesels. All with DCC Decoders

Signals:..... Computer Controlled by Dispatcher

Sound:..... Soundtrax Mobile and Stationary

"Prototype History":

The C&MR was formed as a joint venture of the Chessie, L&N and Southern lines in post-Chessie 1973, with Headquarters in Sinclair, KY, operating as a belt line serving Lexington industries, with trackage rights with the parent companies, serving Chesapeake, KY, on the Ohio River, and McKenna Ridge, KY, with connections to Knoxville. It was reabsorbed into Norfolk Southern in 1995.

Model History:

The C&MR began life as an N-scale 4' x 8' layout in Gaithersburg, Maryland, over 15 years ago. It was moved to Lexington, KY about 13 years ago, and has been through several expansions, growing to about 3 1/2 by 45 feet in several additions, the latest of which is still not scenicked. It supports operations sessions, along with another Lexington layout, for 6 to 10 "regulars" in MCR Division 10. The plan is (big) loop to (little) loop with a single track main. Control is via Digitrax Radio Super Chief. Construction is luan over L-girder frames and joists. Operations are run in fast time and managed by computer programs for switchlist generation and scheduling. Decoder programming is mostly by Winchief.

"CEO":

Pete Birdsong began modeling as a kid, and was into planes, boats, and cars as well as model railroads. Like most, he abandoned all the hobbies in his teens. He started up again when his wife gave him a set for Christmas. He is now retired after 38 years with IBM and Lexmark, and has served in several offices in the MCR and Division 10.

Children's Train Set 1/2 Price in June

During June, Discovery Toys has a great way to get the children in your family to take part in your hobby -- without risking the safety of your own models! Discovery Toys is the premiere educational product company for children aged 0-12 -- and we're currently offering our popular, classic train set for half price to customers who host a home party during the month of June. In addition to getting the train set for half price, you also get: an additional half-price item of your choice; 30% off 8 of our most popular summer toys, additional FREE toys based on how much is sold at your party (average: \$70 value). Contact Clare Warmke at (513) 961-4869 or warmke@nuvox.net to learn more.

TRAIN festival 2004

What: Three Day Train Festival celebrating the 15th Anniversary of the Dennison Railroad Museum showcasing railroading, past and present, to families and railfans

When: July 30, 2004, to August 1, 2004

Host: The Dennison Railroad Depot Museum

Where: Train Festival 2004 will be held in Downtown Dennison, Ohio, on 25 acres around the Museum.

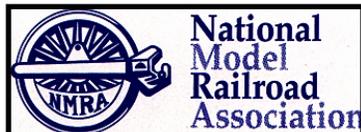
How Much: Gate price will be \$12.00/Adult and \$8.00/child (12 and under). A one-hour train ride will cost \$15.00/adult and \$12.00/child (12 and under)

Expected Attendance: As many as 20,000 over three days, 2500 coming in by train

Excursions: Trips are being planned to bring passengers to Train Festival 2004 from Columbus, Pittsburgh and other locations

Attractions:

- Several of the largest operating Steam Locomotives in the Eastern United States
- Several different excursions, behind different locomotives
- Free Motorized track car rides
- Free miniature scale live steam train rides
- Model Railroad display
- Cab tours of both steam and diesel locomotives
- Art exhibit
- Live entertainment (bands, entertainers)
- Railroad Flea Market
- Craft Tent
- Face painters, clowns, etc...



AROUND THE BEND

MON	DAY	EVENT	PLACE/TIME	PROGRAM	TOUR	CONTEST
JUNE	5	L&N Days	Old Berea Train Station Berea, KY 10am to 4pm	Train Show		
JUNE	6	MCR DIV 10	Eagle Creek Library Lexington, Kentucky 2:00 PM	Pete Birdsong on Operations	Pete Birdsong N Scale Layout	"Anything Goes" All classifications
JUNE	11	BGRRC	Medadowthorpe Community Center 333 Larch Lane, Lex. Ky 7:30 PM	Bill Paulsell on Making Trees		
JULY	4 - 11	NMRA Nat'l Convention	Seattle, WA	See Website for full details: http://www.nmra2004.org/		
JULY	11	MCR DIV 10	Ray & Renee Grosser's Eubank, KY Map will be available later Time to be determined later	TBA	Ray & Renee Grosser's Nostalgia Trip Soo Line HO Railroad	Infrastructure: Trackwork, Signals and Bridges
JULY AUG	30 - 1	Ohio Central RR	Dennison RR Depot Museum Dennison, Ohio 740-622-8118 for Tickets & Info.	Train Festival 2004	See http:// www.trainfestival2004.com/ for more information	
AUG	1	MCR DIV 10	Danville, KY Map will be available later Time to be determined later	None	Bob Lawson Robin Grider John Bowling	On-line Structures (except stations)
SEP	12	MCR DIV 10	TBA 2:00 PM	Mike Armstrong Gadgets	Bob Larger	Diesel Locomotives
OCT	3	MCR DIV 10	TBA 2:00 PM	Mike Baskette: Assembly & Weathering Plastic Structure Kits	Bill Paulsell	Commercial Structures: Industrial, businesses, municipal, etc.
NOV	7	MCR DIV 10	TBA 2:00 PM	Bill Hammer: Anatomy of a Private Road Name Railroad	David Greer	Passenger Cars
NOV	13	Division 10 MCR NMRA Train Show	Knights of Columbus 1604 Versailles Road Lexington, KY 10:00am to 4:00pm	Adm \$5.00, \$4.00 with coupon. Children under 12 free. Table rental \$15.00.	For reservations contact Fred Plymale, 3463 Snaffle Road, Lex., KY 40513. (859)223-7270	
DEC	5	MCR DIV 10	TBA 2:00 PM	Tom Wheeler on Working with Styrofoam	Morgan McIlwain	Open Loads: Flat Cars, Gondolas and Intermodal
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			

Next Meeting:
Sunday, June 6th.
2:00 pm
Eagle Creek Library
Lexington, Kentucky

Program:
Pete Birdsong
on
Model Railroad Operations

Tour:
Pete Birdsong's
N Scale
Chesapeake & McKenna Ridge
and
Operations Demonstration

Bring & Brag:
"Anything Goes"
All classifications



*Don't forget the
NEW
Show 'n Tell
and
Swap Meet
events during our
regular meetings.*



The Lantern

Published most months by Division 10
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STAMP

*Don't Miss
L&N Days
Saturday, June 5
Berea, KY*

*see the Superintendent's Notes
on page one for details*
