



# The Lantern



Volume 7 Issue 3

Division 10, Mid Central Region

March, 2005

## *Editor's Notes*

I can't believe it is almost March! The reason for this corny statement is to say that the National Convention in Cincinnati will be here soon (July 3 - 9) and it is time to be making plans to attend. Never in my memory has such a big event been so close to here. Many of you have probably received copies in the mail of the February issue of *Scale Rails*. Inside are several pages of convention information and registration forms for the convention and all of the layout and other tours. Please also see the NMRA Web site.

We have had some excellent turnouts at our display at Turfland Mall. I was there Tuesday, Feb. 15 and 22; and the place was jumping! We had many visitors who came by and were attracted by the new scenery on the Lionel layout and the HO scale project layout benchwork that Chris Cord brought out. If you are lonely and want to see what is going on in our hobby, come on out to Turfland Mall on Tuesday nights between 7 and 9!

Although I didn't make it to last month's meeting, it was great to see that Fritz Dutro made it out and took first place in the modeling section of the Bring n' Brag. Way to go, Fritz!

Also, our neighboring divisions 7 and 8 are having their spring swap meets on the 12th and 19th of March, respectively. A nice excuse to get out for the day. Don't forget the Show and Tell and Trade Tables at our next meeting on Sunday, March 6 at the Northside Branch Library

- Ron Kercheval

## *Message From The Superintendent*

I want to thank Mike Armstrong for another great clinic. I know many of us are reluctant to do much scenery on our layout. Using some of Mike's methods you no longer have a reason to put it off!

Our visit to Wendell Greer's layout was a treat that I look forward to each year. It is great fun to see what he has added and/or improved on his railroad. There is always a lot to learn from a Master Model Railroader and Wendell is one who is constantly willing to share his tricks and secrets. I want to thank both Mike and Wendell for making our February meeting such a success.

In March our clinic will be presented by Pete Birdsong. He will host a discussion on model railroad workshops, work benches, and favorite tools. This should prove to be a lively clinic and will be a lot of fun.

Our tour this month will be to Pat Gerstle's Sn3 Layout. It is a freelance section of the famous D&RGW railroad. This is without a doubt one of the most impressive small layouts in the state of Kentucky. Pat has gone to unprecedented lengths to create an accurate scenic setting for his railroad. If you take the time to visit any layouts this year, this one should be at the top of your list.

For the first time in my memory we will be meeting at the Northside Branch Library at 1737 Russell Cave Road. It is about half way between New Circle Road and the Interstate Overpass on your left as you are going

away from town. I know it is a little out of the way for some of you, but it's closer for others. Parking is easy and it's very easy to get to from New Circle Road.

Our presence at Turfland Mall is getting better every month. As you know we started out with the N Scale modules. We have since added a small O Scale layout in one of the front windows. The amazing thing about this layout is that Pete Birdsong has created a touch switch that is attached to the inside of the window which will allow people on the outside to run the train whenever the mall is open even when we are not there.

And, this month Chris Cord has started the HO layout that we will be building at the mall and will auction this fall. This project is designed to encourage participation from all our members. You can work on the layout, donate supplies and rolling stock or sell the raffle tickets. Our primary purpose for doing this project is to demonstrate to the public how easy it is to build a simple layout and how much fun it can be for them or their kids. Also, for current or perspective members we plan to create a display that will explain how to get your NMRA Golden Spike award, using, as an example, the layout being built. The proceeds of the raffle will be used to purchase model railroading books and magazines for the public and school libraries. We have had several members already offer to donate items. I will publish a list as soon as I know who wants their name included and who does not.

To do all of this **we desperately need volunteers**. First we need folks who can run trains at the mall between 12 and 4 on Saturday and Sunday afternoon. It does not matter if you have N

***February Bring & Brag Winners - Fritz Dutro and David Greer***



## 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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### “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 30 to 35% fee.

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

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

you have anything you could donate to the HO project it would be appreciated.

Thanks for all your participation and I'll see you on the 6<sup>th</sup>.

- John Gorman

## Message From The Superintendent

(Continued from page 1)

scale equipment. There is plenty there to run two full trains. If you can not work all four hours find someone to share the shift with. You work 2 and the other person work 2. The only requirement is that everybody responsible for running the trains **MUST** be an NMRA member. This is for our liability insurance. This does not mean that you can't bring a guest. But the member must be in control of the layout at all times. We also need more volunteers to help with our HO layout project and we need to try to find a way to be open on Friday nights. Please offer to help if you are not doing so now! I know for out of town members it may be impossible to help in person, but if



## Scale Reproductions Hobby Shop

3073 Breckinridge Lane McMahan Plaza  
Louisville, KY 40220  
(502) 459-5849 [brian@sri.win.net](mailto:brian@sri.win.net)

- Specializing in HO and N scale model railroading
- Large selection of accessories, decals, detailing parts and reference.
- Large selection of DCC items including Digitrax, Lenz, NCE and more!
- Most items 10%-20% off retail price everyday.
- We also give an additional 10% discount to NMRA members!!
- Special order and mail order service available.

**MCR Division 10**  
wishes to thank  
**Turfland Mall**  
for the use of the space  
to display and run our  
**N Trak Layout**

## In Recognition...

Many thanks to our Patrons and Sustaining Members listed in the next column. (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.

To the right of each contributor's name is the date of his or her latest contribution. Whenever one makes a contribution, his or her date will be updated and for new contributors, their name will be added.

John Deville	2/1/2004
Ray Grosser	2/1/2004
William Paulsell	2/1/2004
Fred Plymale	2/1/2004
Ron Saylor	2/1/2004
Alan Brock	3/1/2004
Edward Butcher	3/1/2004
Irv Frary	3/1/2004
Ron Kercheval	3/1/2004
Phillip Ditchen	5/1/2004
Mark Hunt	6/1/2004
Fritz Dutro	7/1/2004
Donald Birdsong, Jr.	9/1/2004
Robin Grider	9/1/2004
Tony Lucio	9/1/2004
Louis Jaquith	10/1/2004
John Daniel	11/1/2004
David Griffin	1/1/2005
William Hammer	1/1/2005
Jeffery Hinnrichs	1/1/2005
Edward Keyser	1/1/2005
William Robbins	1/1/2005
John Gorman	1/31/2005
Tom Lykins	1/31/2005
Michael Lyons	2/2/2005
Richard Frye	2/6/2005
Robert Lawson	2/6/2005

### 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!!**



## Bring n' Brag February, 2005

Our Bring n' Brag category for February was Rolling Stock. We had five entries including some sharp freight cars from Fritz Dutro. Fritz, great to see that you made it out!

First, Bill Robbins entered two Maintenance of Way cars and a snow plow. Next, Fritz entered four 34 foot hoppers and a box car. Lou Jaquith exhibited some hoppers, and David Battin had some miscellaneous freight cars. Fritz handily took first place, and Lou edged out David for second place.

There was one photo, a layout scene by David Greer.

I apologize for there being no photos this month. Other commitments kept our lensmen away. Also, a big thanks to Bill Robbins and Ed Butcher for filling in for me last Sunday. I hope to see everybody next month.

Next month's category will be Structures (of all types). We have had a tremendous output of different buildings the last couple of years so we should have an interesting contest next month. Also, if you have some project you have been working on whatever its category, please feel free to bring it out and share it with us. Until next time, happy modeling!

- Ron

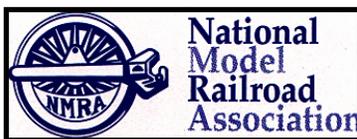
## 2005 Bring n' Brag Scores

MODELS			PHOTOS		
High to Low or Tie	Feb.	PT	High to Low or Tie	Feb.	PT
David Batten	2	6	David Greer	5	5
Pat Gerstle	-	5			
Fritz Dutro (1st)	5	5			
Lou Jaquith (2nd)	4	4			
Tony Lucio	-	3			
Bill Robins (3rd)	3	3			

*Points are awarded for models according the following rules. Three points for a first place. Two points for second place and one point for third. One point is awarded for your first entry. A second point is given if that entry is "On Topic". A member may submit only one entry per month.*

## Bring n' Brag Schedule for 2005

March 2005 - Structures (All types)  
 April 2005 - Locomotives (All types)  
 May 2005 - Rolling Stock (All types)  
 June 2005 - Structures (All types)  
 July 2005 - Locomotives (All types)  
 August 2005 - Rolling Stock (All types)  
 September 2005 - Structures (All types)  
 October 2005 - Locomotives (All types)  
 November 2005 - Rolling Stock (All types)  
 December 2005 - Structures (All types)



## 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, what's new?

Larry: Oh, hi Rivets. Not a whole lot. What's new with you?

Rivets: Well, I got this thing in the mail the other day; its from a guy in our NMRA division. His name is Zeke Nerdthong.

Larry: Yeah, I know that guy. He is the one whose all the time takin' pictures, the one workin' on his master model railroader certificate.

Rivets: Yeah, that's the guy. He sent this survey. Didn't ya get one?

Larry: Aw, Rivets, I never fill out them things. It is always somebody tryin' to nose into my business. And for what, to get some kindo statistic and makes me look bad?

Rivets: Larry, you don't need any statistics to make you look bad. All he is askin' is a few questions about our work benches. It might be interestin' to know what other guys are doing and what they would like or are plannin' for the future. I just mailed mine. Come on, fill yours out, too.

Larry: I already did. It's on the table, picture and all.

Rivets: Sigh. Larry, you're always runnin' off about something. Let me see it.

Larry: Okay. Check out the picture first.

Rivets: Larry, what the heck is this?!?!?

Larry: My workbench!

Rivets: Larry, that looks like a full sized gondola load of trash!

Larry: Watch it, Rivets. You're talkin' about some of my prized projects there.

Rivets: Which prized project? That bottle o' spilled paint or the tube o' glue with the ooze out the side.

Larry: Well, Rivets, I decided to give the true picture of who I am.

Rivets: Larry, if that is who you are, you need a doctor.

Larry: Rivets, there is method here. Method, I tell ya. Examine that picture closer. Tell me what ya see.

Rivets: I already told ya what I see.

Larry: As usual, Rivets, ya don't see the big picture.

Rivets: I see the picture and it's...

Larry: Look closer, Rivets. What you see is a two foot by four foot work bench, stashed away in a closet. Now the advantages of this should not haveta be explained. You're getting ready for a show. Time is runnin' out. Ya simply close the doors on the closet and ya have saved yourself hours of cleanin' and straightenin'.

Rivets: Yeah, but in your case, it's days!

Larry: On the right hand side is my brewery project. On the left had side is my B unit super detailing project. In the middle is my scratchbuildin' HO sandbox for the play ground. I hope to enter that one in the Achievement Program.

Rivets: And on top of it all is all the stuff ya don't need and can't throw away. You're the only guy I know whose junk box is the workbench. It's no wonder all your projects looks like they been broken! Ya put all this stuff on top of 'em. I betyour tools have fallen on half your projects. Ya need to clean up this mess.

Larry: Rivets, you are forgetting the one great advantage of a work bench like mine.

Rivets: And just what would that be?

Larry: Everything I will ever need is right at my fingertips.

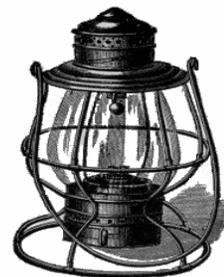
Rivets: I hate ta think what answers you gave toZeke's questions.

Larry: Well, Rivets, like they say on that auction website, eDay, a picture says more than words can ever describe.

Rivets: When I look at this picture, I hear a thousand voices all clamorin' the same thing.

Larry: And what is that?

Rivets: Help!!



## *Modeling Tips: A Different Approach II*

**By John Deville**

Before I go any further, there is a need to clarify and make a slight change. The first article written in the last issue is to be titled: Modeling Tips: A Different Approach I and let this one be section II. In a nutshell, the last issue dealt with the rationale of modeling tips, the raw materials (wood, plastic and metal) that can be available.

### Part A: Mechanics in dealing with the raw materials

There has to be ways of forming the shapes, scale sizes, and the needed quantities of wood, plastic and metal. Certain tools are needed to cut, saw, whittle, plane, laminate, glue, paint and weather the parts we wish to add on or show. Here are some examples:

- 1) hobby knives with handles and blades of various numbers and sizes. These knives are used to shape parts for proper scale size, length, width, depth, curves and any form needed. Also, don't forget the pocket knife.
- 2) surfoam rasps, files, and small planes. These tools are great for making smooth surfaces and for reducing thickness of the material.
- 3) razor saws, fine-toothed saws, backsaws, dovetail saws, hacksaws with fine-toothed (straight) blades. A specific saw can be used for special cuts for wood, plastic or metal. Even the carpenter's saw can come in handy to saw larger pieces smaller.
- 4) sharpening stones for knives. In order to be effective in cutting, knife blades are sharpened for easier cutting and carving. But for replaceable blades, it is better to buy new blades in the run...saves time and prevent accidents from dull ones.
- 5) single-edged razor blades. These are nice for short, thin strokes on wood or plastic. But I do not recommend razor blades (especially the double-edged ones); it is better to use a hobby knife. You can have more control with such cutting tool with a long handle than razor blades. These blades are fine for purchased "choppers" which some model builders use and are careful how they cut their materials.
- 6) medium- and small-size crowbars and hammer. These are handy to knock down nailed wooden crates and boxes for the wood.
- 7) scale ruler, straight-edge (of brass or iron metal so as not disfigure your scale ruler when cutting), and sharpened pencils.
- 8) miter box and home-made helping jigs.
- 9) small- and medium-sized clamps.
- 10) fine-grit sandpaper and a sandpaper holder.

These are the basics to have handy as a start. We will deal more along this line later on when we can make a list of what we need in modeling and build up ideas for the modeling tips.

Part B: Safety This particular area can never be overemphasized. Watch where you place your hands, and fingers (and even feet) on wood, plastic and even the tool before you cut or saw. Even too much pressure or improper use of a tool can lead to accidental skin and flesh wounds, even an eye injury. (I have a long scar on my left fourth finger with a cut from a razor blade while building an airplane model. I also have a cut in a leather shoe when I dropped a hobby knife. Speak about "practicing what one preaches!")

*(Continued on page 7)*

## *Modeling Tips: A Different Approach II*

(Continued from page 6)

Part C: Let's start with our list of what we can build or plan to build.

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) scale lumber of different sizes</li> <li>c) platforms for loading and unloading</li> <li>e) scale crates and packages</li> <li>g) roofs on platform, gable, and bay</li> <li>i) trees and branches</li> <li>k) window frames (laminated)</li> <li>m) double-sheathed car sides</li> <li>o) stockyard fences, gates and ramps</li> <li>q) composite sides for hopper, stock cars</li> <li>s) rick (pile) of fire wood</li> <li>u) flumes</li> <li>w) wainscots of various structures</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>b) walls for various sheds and buildings</li> <li>d) water tanks</li> <li>f) ice house and icing platform</li> <li>h) barrels (dowels, etc.)</li> <li>j) doors (all structures)</li> <li>l) single-sheathed car sides</li> <li>n) water-cooler slats in wooden towers</li> <li>p) lumber and planing mills' structures</li> <li>r) grain mills, elevators, cotton gins</li> <li>t) picnic benches and tables</li> <li>v) mine braces</li> <li>y) corn cribs</li> </ul> |
|--|---|

This list is just a "touch of the iceberg," for there are more items we can make from wood. For the next issue, we will deal with the plastic type of "building materials." You will be surprised of places to scrounge plastic and build many items. As a conductor used to tell me, this is the "end of the line" for now.

*- John Deville*

# AROUND THE BEND

MON.	DAY	EVENT	PLACE/TIME	PROGRAM	TOUR	CONTEST
MAR	6	MCR DIV 10	Northside Branch Library 1737 Russell Cave Road 2:00 PM	Workbenches For Modeling Presented by Pete Birdsong	Pat Gerstle	Structures (All Types)
Mar.	11	BGRRC	Meadowthorpe Community Center 7:30 pm	TBA		
Mar.	12	MCR DIV 7	Lakota West High School West Chester, OH (Just north of Cincinnati) 10:00 am - 5:00 pm	Annual Spring Swap Meet (See Division 7 Web site for details)		
Mar.	19	MCR DIV 8	Highland Post, Amer. Legion Bardstown Rd., Louisville, KY 10:00 am - 3:00 pm	Train Show and Sale (See Division 8 Web site for details)		
MAY 2005	12-15	MCR Convention	Comfort Inn, Austinburg, OH	Contact: Matt Kross e-mail mkross@earthlink.net		
JULY 2005	TBA	NMRA Nat'l Convention	TBA, Cincinnati			

**Next Meeting:**  
**Sunday, March 6th**  
**2:00 - 4:00 pm**  
**Northside Branch Library**  
**Lexington, KY**

**Program:**  
**Workbenches For**  
**Modeling**  
**Presented by**  
**Pete Birdsong**

**Tour:**  
**Pat Gerstle**

**Bring & Brag:**  
**Structures**  
**(All types)**



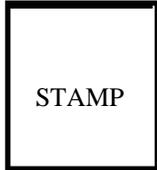
**Come on out to Turfland**  
**Mall on Tuesday nights**  
**Between 7:00 and 9:00!**



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# The Lantern

Published monthly by Division 10  
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6	Modeling Tips: A different Approach II
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