



# The Lantern



Volume 7 Issue 6

Division 10, Mid Central Region

June-July, 2005

## ***Lunch at the Grosser's On June 12th!***

On June 12<sup>th</sup> we are invited to Ray and Renee Grosser's home in Eubank, KY for a catered lunch, a self paced tour of their "Nostalgia Trip" model railroad and a live demonstration run of a restored 1917 Frick Eclipse Steam Tractor. Lunch will be served from about 1:00 pm to around 2:00 depending on how long the food holds out. A map to the event is included in this newsletter.

Of course, our main reason for going is to view the new and improved "Nostalgia Trip". This layout has won several honors including the NMRA 1<sup>st</sup>. Place Award in Kansas City. The layout has been featured in several model railroad magazines and is the subject of Allen Keller's "Great Model Railroads" video series, volume #34.

*(Continued on page 2)*

## ***Message From The Superintendent***

What a great meeting in May! We had great attendance, great clinics and a great layout tour. I am sure everyone enjoyed it, I know I did. I want to thank Pete Birdsong for his mini-clinic on NMRA AP Judging and for his hosting of the AP judging event coming in August. If you didn't get the forms, please pick one or more up at the next meeting because I know that each of you have something you have built that can be entered in the event. Don't miss it.

Bill Hammer's mini-clinic on sound recording and playback devices was excellent. I now have several new ideas on how to improve my (future) layout with the sounds that would be heard as a train passes different structures. Thanks Bill for a really enlightening clinic.

I have been involved both personally

and professionally with personal computers since they came into existence over 25 years ago. And, I really didn't think there was much left for me to learn. Well, thank you Tony Lucio for proving me wrong with your mini-clinic on using computers to enhance model railroads. Not only did Tony teach me a new trick or two but he made it so simple that I can get my wife to do it.

Our trip to Bill Robbin's HO layout was an eye opener! Boy has he been at work. Not only has he done an enormous amount of work improving the scenery, replacing and adding new structures and fixing some troublesome sections of track and turnouts. But he has also converted the entire layout to DCC. As we looked at Bill's layout more and more improvements became obvious. Thank you Bill, for inviting us to see your layout and all your new work. You have done a really fantastic job!

*(Continued on page 6)*



## ***May Bring & Brag Winners - Pete Birdsong and Lou Jaquith***

Pete Birdsong entered two awesome O scale freight cars and took first place in modeling. You have to see these in person to appreciate the detail and weathering of the wood surfaces. Lou Jaquith won in the photo portion with his N de M SD40 photos.



# 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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<b>Programs</b>	John Gorman, <i>Acting</i>
<b>Webmaster</b>	Pete Birdsong



## “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.

## Ride/Room Share For National Convention

It’s not too late to consider room sharing or carpooling to the National Convention in Cincinnati in July. There has been a sign-up sheet at our Turfland Mall location the past couple of months. Some of us will only be attending the National Train Show Friday 8th, Saturday 9th or Sunday 10th, while some may be making a week of it.

Why not pool resources and share the gasoline and parking fees? Would you rather spend your hard-earned money at the Train Show or on big city parking fees? Dumb question!

## Lunch at the Grosser’s On June 12th!

(Continued from page 1)

Don’t miss this trip!

The Grossers need to know about how many folks will be there to have lunch. So, please let John Gorman know via email ([jgorman@lex-ky.us](mailto:jgorman@lex-ky.us)) or phone (859-269-3573) if you and any guests will be attending. Ray and Renee need to know as soon as possible, so please don’t forget to tell John your plans.

- John Gorman

- Ron



## 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.

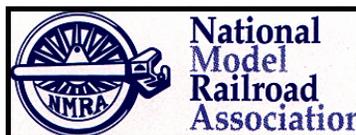
To the right of each contributor's name is the date of his or her latest contribution. Whenever one makes a contribution, his or her date will be updated and for new contributors, their name will be added.

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
Fritz Dutro	11/23/04
David Griffin	1/1/2005
William Hammer	1/1/2005
Jeffery Hinnrichs	1/1/2005
Mark Hunt	1/1/2005
Catherine Hunt	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
John Deville	3/6/2005
Ed Scheiner	3/6/2005
David Batten	4/3/2005
Stewart Winstandley	4/3/2005
Philip Ditchen	4/26/2005

### 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 May, 2005

*(Continued from page 4)*

same loco. Wendell Greer showed up with a nice photo of a freight station on his layout. Lou took first in a close contest.

In show and tell, Don Burris brought in an Amtrak super dome to share.

On June 12, we will be in Eubank at the Grossers and the category will be Structures of all types. Don't forget that is the second Sunday, not the first as usual.

Since there is no July meeting, we will be handing out certificates at our August meeting for the second quarter. Also, we will be having two categories in August: both Locomotives AND Rolling Stock. This will get us back on our quarterly schedule. We will have more details in the August "Lantern". Hope you all have a great summer and can make it up to the National in Cincinnati for some inspiration !

*- Ron*

## Bring n' Brag May, 2005

We continue to be blessed with a good number of entries for our Bring n' Brag and our last meeting was no exception! The category was Rolling Stock of all types and we had six entries.

First, David Batten brought a sharp Western Maryland freight train pulled by an RS3. Pete Birdsong had two entries: an O scale standard gauge flat car with incredible workmanship as well as an equally great On3 boxcar. Lou Jaquith also had two entries: a beautiful Walthers heavyweight Paducah & Louisville observation car with super detailed interior and a group of six box car and reefer models built from old Comet kits with printed cardstock sides. It's great to see these old fashioned models in today's RTR world! Stew Winstandly rounded things out with a cool looking Monon N scale heater car kitbashed from a Troop Kitchen. Pete took both first and third place while Lou came in second. All in all, a great group of models!

There were two photo entries: Lou Jaquith had photos of a Nacionales de Mexico SD40 (prototype) as well as an HO scale presentation model of the

*(Continued on page 3)*

## 2005 Bring n' Brag Scores

### MODELS

High to Low or Tie	May	PT
Pete Birdsong (1st & 3rd)	6	11
Lou Jaquith (2nd)	4	7
Tony Lucio		4
David Batten	2	4
Stew Winstandly	2	4
Bill Robbins		2

### PHOTOS

High to Low or Tie	May	PT
David Greer	5	5
Randy Coffman	4	4
Lou Jaquith (1st)	4	4
Wendell Greer (2nd)	3	3

*Points are awarded for models according to 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

June 2005 - Structures (All types)  
 July 2005 - NO MEETING  
 August 2005 - Locomotives AND 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)

# AROUND THE BEND

MON.	DAY	EVENT	PLACE/TIME	PROGRAM	TOUR	CONTEST
JUNE	10	BGRRC	Meadowthorpe Comm. Center 7:30 PM	"Steam Fever" Video on the last days of steam in South Africa		
JUNE	12	MCR DIV 10	Ray & Renee Grosser's Nostalgia Trip Eubank, KY	1917 Frick Eclipse Steam Tractor	Nostalgia Trip Layout	Structures (All Types)
JUNE	25, 26	BGRM	Blue Grass Scenic Railroad Versailles, KY	Wild West Weekend		
JULY	-	MCR DIV 10	NO MEETING	NA	NA	NA
JULY 2005	3-10	NMRA Nat'l Convention	July 3 - 10 Cincinnati, OH	See NMRA Web Site National Train Show July 8-10	See NMRA Web Site	
AUG	6	AP Judging	Pete Birdsong's Residence 1:00 PM	Achievement Program Judging	(see enclosed flyer)	
AUG	7	MCR DIV 10	Danville, KY	Three Layout Tours	Bob Lawson, John Bowling, & Robin Grider	Locomotives & Rolling Stock (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: Well, Rivets, I have been workin' hard in the garden railroad. I have tried all kinds of systems to get rid of the weeds, but this one is fool proof.

Rivets: Better watch yourself, Larry, when ya go talkin' about "fool proof". I seem to remember a few fool proof ideas that didn't work all that well.

Larry: Aw, Rivets, you just like to remember my failures, but I have had many successes, like this new system for getting rid of weeds.

Rivets: Is it better than the one where you turned several sheep loose in your garden railroad? I seem to remember they seemed to like to chew on plastic and resin.

Larry: Rivets, it worked for awhile, until all the weeds were gone.

Rivets: Yeah, right, and until you couldn't walk in your garden with out steppin' in something, and worse, slippin', too! And what about the time you bought those mountain climber boots with the ice spikes? You were out there stoppin' on all those weeds and you seemed to do a number on your track.

Larry: In theory, it shoulda worked.

Rivets: And then there was the time you created this mower car with a electric saw on a flat car, boy now that was a good one. Went right through all your G scale telephone poles, your electric buss lines for your lights, and cut off the heads of several MOW workers.

Larry: Yeah, but it was pretty slick.

Rivets: And got slicker when it went by your pond! Poor "Froggy" ain't a courtin' no more!

Larry: But I now got the only three legged frog in the city!

Rivets: That now always hops in circles! And then there was the best one of all: the pendulum scythe on top of a track cleaning caboose. Did they ever sew your dog's ear back on?

Larry: I did it myself. I didn't want anyone to think I didn't love my dog. Trouble was I was so in shock, I guess, that I sewed it on backwards and the pink side is toward his head and the furry side is like, like on the outside.

Rivets: That poor dog! Why don't ya just get it fixed right.

Larry: I just told ya, besides, I took care of the way he looks. I had a special MOW hard hat made for him.

Rivets: A dog with a backwards ear and a hard hat. Where is it. This I gotta see!

Larry: Well, he won't come out from under the bed anymore. I think he's embarrassed. But this new system is great! Come on out back! I put fifteen inches of mulch over the whole garden! It's wonderful.

Rivets:..Uh, Larry, where is everything? You've covered up your whole railroad: buildings, plants and track. What were you thinkin'?!

Larry: I guess we need a good rain, huh?

Rivets: Larry, have you ever heard the story of Noah's ark? It rained forty days and forty nights?

Larry: Yeah?

Rivets: It wouldn't begin to touch this railroad. You don't need rain! You need an archeologist!



## Message From The Superintendent

(Continued from page 1)

The June meeting will be on the SECOND SUNDAY of the month, June, 12<sup>th</sup>. The meeting will be at Ray and Renee Grosser's place in order to see their "Nostalgia Trip" HO scale SOO Line model railroad. The Grossers have a home and separate railroad building in Eubank, KY. A catered lunch will be served from 1:00 till about 2:00 pm (assuming the food holds out after I arrive!) It takes a little over an hour to get there from Lexington, so allow plenty of time so you don't miss a great meal. A map is included elsewhere in this newsletter.

If you have never seen the "Nostalgia Trip" layout you absolutely can't miss this opportunity. And, if you think you have already seen it, think again, you really haven't; because, Ray and Renee have added a large new section to the layout and made many improvements to the rest. The "Nostalgia Trip" will be one of the featured layouts on the National NMRA convention tour this July, but the Grossers have been gracious enough to let us see it at our own pace a month early as well as provide lunch! And, for another bonus, if everything goes according to plan, we will also get to witness the firing and operation of a restored 1917 Frick Eclipse Steam Tractor which is housed on the Grosser's property.

Bring your spouse, significant other, or a friend if you like, but what ever you do, don't miss this opportunity to see one of the best model railroads in Kentucky. PLEASE let me know by email ([jgorman@lex-ky.us](mailto:jgorman@lex-ky.us)) or phone (859-269-3573) if you plan on being there for lunch and if you are bringing guests (spouse, partner, etc.). I need to get a count to the Grossers as soon as possible!

Our Turfland Mall layout is still attracting lots of visitors every weekend. This project has certainly been successful. The only problem we have is the lack of volunteer's to run the layout. We desperately need NMRA members

to step up and give 4 hours of their time on a Saturday or Sunday afternoon each month to make it possible for us to stay open. Please contact Mike Armstrong or me if you are willing to help.

Also at the mall is the HO layout project that will be raffled off later this year. The layout is coming along great. We have had lots of generous gifts of supplies and materials to build the layout and several trains were donated go with it. Along with Chris Cord who is managing the project, Ed Butcher, Bill Robbins, Mike Armstrong and many others have worked Tuesday nights and some weekends to get it built and scened. At this stage buildings are being built, track is ready to be ballasted and a lot of finishing touches are to be added. If you have not seen it lately, come by Turfland mall and take a look.

After the NMRA Convention in July it will be time to start getting ready for our annual train show in November. I need volunteers for coordinator, table sales, promotion, set up, ticket sales, the club sales table, layout displays and security. If you are willing to help, please let me know. If you don't tell me what job you prefer, I may be calling on you to fill a position nobody else wanted. You also need to consider what you have for sale. You are encouraged to purchase a table or two. But, if you only have a few items to sell consider letting the club sell it for you at the club table. Or, get together with a buddy and split a table. Whatever you decide, this is the time and place to get rid of all those items you had to have in the past but can't remember why, so you can buy all the things you have to have today. I will have a lot more detail in the August newsletter – stay tuned.

Because the National NMRA Convention will be in our back yard (Cincinnati, OH) July 3<sup>rd</sup> through the 10<sup>th</sup> we will not have a club meeting that month. Also, we will not be publishing a Lantern in July. Our next newsletter will be mailed the end of July for August 1<sup>st</sup> delivery. Our August meeting will be on the 7<sup>th</sup> in Danville KY. More information and a map to the layouts will be in the August newsletter.

Well, someone is knocking on the door

to visit the train store. I've got to go, I hope to see you at the Grosser's on June 12<sup>th</sup>.

- John



## Bluegrass Model Engineers to Give Live Steam Demonstrations

Steven Harrod of the Bluegrass Model Engineers sent the following information about their desire in constructing a local live steam or large scale model railway track site. They are planning a demonstration at the Lexington Children's Museum "Museum Go Round" annual fair. They have also been approached by the Bluegrass Railroad Museum in Versailles about the possibility of locating a site at their facility.

In response to their offer, Steven has offered to demonstrate his portable track and steam train on a few select dates this summer at the BGRM. These demonstrations would allow the museum to gauge interest among the public.

This sure sounds like a neat project and I wish them all the best! Check out their Web site listed at the bottom of this page. They may be reached at the address below:

Bluegrass Model Engineers  
c/o Steven Harrod  
828 Summerville Dr.  
Lexington, KY 40504

E-mail: [a2soft@aol.com](mailto:a2soft@aol.com)

[www.a2soft.com/bluegrassmodelengineers](http://www.a2soft.com/bluegrassmodelengineers)

- Ron

## *Railroad Lingo: Game and Quizzette*

By John DeVille

How well do you know railroad terms and lingo? Here's an opportunity to indicate what you know and possibly some phrases or words you may learn. Just write in the answers. The key is at the bottom of this article.

1. A "cornfield meet" occurs when two \_\_\_\_\_ hit head on on the same tracks.
2. "Bending the iron" is done when a railroad employee changes the \_\_\_\_\_ of the tracks.
3. A "car knocker" is really a car \_\_\_\_\_ at freight yards and sidings.
4. A "gandy dancer" works on the \_\_\_\_\_ of a railroad.
5. The \_\_\_\_\_ at a railroad company is called the "brass hat."
6. "Around the bend" means \_\_\_\_\_.
7. The "yard goat" is really a yard \_\_\_\_\_.
8. "Plain vanilla" means locomotives or freight cars are \_\_\_\_\_.
9. The "C & E" whimsy or flimsy is a written/typed message for the \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.
10. The brightly lit red-pink flare from a roman-candle look-alike object, which sticks up on a railroad tie is to warn that \_\_\_\_\_. What is the name of this object? \_\_\_\_\_
11. A brass pounder is a railroad employee who is a (an) \_\_\_\_\_.

ANSWERS: In random order, sorry!

inspector, boss, engineer, telegrapher, fusee, all the same, switcher, train in same block, direction, around a curve, locomotives, conductor, railroad tracks

### *Editor's Notes*

This issue of the Lantern covers both June and July as we will not be having a July meeting due to the National Convention being July 3 through 10. We will be resuming publication with our August issue, just in time for the activities we have planned. This includes the NMRA AP judging event at Pete Birdsong's and our outing in Danville to see all the great layouts. You will notice the "SPACE AVAILABLE" sign to the right! This is just a humorous reminder that any articles, model reviews, events or advertisements are welcome. This also goes for any suggestions for the "Lantern" too. Have a great summer and try to make it up to Cincinnati for the National!

THIS SPACE  
AVAILABLE

*- Ron Kercheval*

**Next Meeting:**  
**Sunday, June 12**  
**1:00 - 4:00 pm**  
**Grosser's Farm**  
**Eubank, KY**

**Program:**  
**1917 Frick Eclipse**  
**Steam Tractor**

**Tour:**  
**Ray and Renee Grosser's**  
**SOO Line Nostalgia Trip**

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



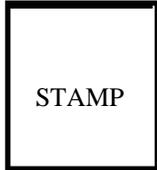
**Come on out to Turfland**  
**Mall on Tuesday nights**  
**Between 7:00 and 9:00!**



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# The Lantern

Published monthly by Division 10  
Mid Central Region  
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<b>Contents</b>	
1	Superintendent's Message Lunch at the Grosser's
2	Officer Listing, Company Store, Committee Chairs Lunch at the Grossers, cont'd. Convention Ride Share
3	Support Your Hobby Shops Contributors Bring n' Brag Report, cont'd.
4	Bring n' Brag Report Bring n' Brag Scores & Schedule Around the Bend
5	Witless vs Clueless
6	Super's Message, cont'd. Bluegrass Model Engineers
7	Railroad Lingo Game Editor's Notes