



THE LANTERN



NOVEMBER 2009

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Bring and Brag is back

By Larry K. Smith

Bring and Brag begins at the November meeting. The Board has made some changes to the scoring for our contest which will allow for more NMRA member participation. Each entry should be judged by all the members at the meeting. Each attending member will now use three categories for judging each entry. These judging categories are: (1) Construction, (2) Detailing, and (3) Finish and Lettering. We want members to put a number on how well you felt the person who brought the model in did in these categories. The purpose is to give the person who brought the model some feedback on how well the model was built or presented. Each judging category should be given a score from 1 to 10, where 10 is the best. On the score sheet there is written information for each judging category which may assist you in assigning a number for that category. The scoring sheet we will be using is a simplified and shortened version of the national scoring sheet. Hopefully, the new scoring method will lead to an improvement of all our modeling skills and knowledge.

After all the scoring has been completed by our members and the scoring sheets have been collected, an average of all the scores for a category will be computed. This average will be computed for all three categories. The total score for a model will then be the sum of these three average scores for the three scoring categories. As each month of Bring and Brag passes, the score for that most recent month for a member will be added together with the previous months for an accumulated score. Whoever has the most points at the end of the contest months, normally June, will be named the Top Modeler for the year. In addition to this honor, a prize will be presented to the winner with the most points.

On-line Structures, November 1st

On-line structures will be our topic for November. Please plan to bring an On-line structure and participate in the contest. Our goal is to have fun and hopefully learn something new! If you ever have a comment or suggestion you would like to share, please contact me. The following month's contests are listed on the back page.

The Super's Column is on page 3

Contents of this article about the diorama program was presented by Fred Plymale at the October meeting. This program will let members use their modeling skills and participate in a project that can be placed on their existing or future layout. Building a diorama incorporating structures, track, and is fun. If you have questions or need help, please call Fred.



859 223 7270

MCR Division 10 Diorama Program

By Fred Plymale

Building a model railroad layout can be a daunting task. It requires a track plan and numerous skills including carpentry, wiring, structures, etc. Some of our members don't currently have the space or time to build a large layout but building a diorama that you can fit into your future layout can be the answer. You can use all the skills you have learned in our many clinics now rather than waiting to finish bench work, etc. I built several that are now on my new layout.

Here's our proposed Diorama plan....

The minimum size is 12"X14" and the maximum size is 16"X24" for those modeling in larger scales. The program started at the October meeting and judging of the completed projects will take place on Sunday, March 7th. Prizes are yet to be determined. Judging will be done using the new form that will be used in all future Bring and Brag programs. Up to 10 points will be awarded for construction, 10 points for details and 10 points for finish and lettering. It should be an "on line" project with some ballasted track and finished scenery.

While you can use wood or foam for the base I strongly recommend 3/4" foam or larger. It's difficult to carve or dig a river, stream, pond or ditch in plywood. Several ways for your diorama to earn more points is to have multiple structures, one could be an out house. Consider using real dirt, some type of water, trees, lights, figures, roads and vehicles. A multilevel diorama with changes in elevation incorporating rocks is more difficult to build but much more interesting than a completely flat one.

This should be a fun project that I guarantee will make you a better modeler!

You can work alone or if enough participants are interested we could consider having a round robin Tuesday evenings at least twice a month to help members plan and build their diorama. Let's build a project instead of just having a social hour.

Members with layouts can also participate and put the finished diorama on their layout at the completion of the program.



National Model Railroad Association

The Lantern is a monthly (except July) publication of Division 10, Mid Central Region (MCR), National Model Railroad Association. All opinions expressed herein are those of the authors, and do not necessarily reflect those of Division 10, the MCR, the NMRA, or anyone else.

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In Recognition...

Many thanks to folks listed in the column below. They have given their time, materials and/or money to support our club. We encourage all NMRA members to help with financial support to *The Lantern* and our website and the Division 10 train shows. **Send your monetary contribution to our Treasurer.**

To be listed here your contribution needs to be at least \$20 in cash or material valued at \$50 or a total of 20 hours time within the last year. Division 10 receives NO monetary support from the NMRA or the Mid Central Region. Division 10 is recognized by the US government as a 501c3 corporation and your cash or material donations may be tax deductible.

Contributions of materials or time should be reported to John Gorman so that he can keep track of them.

To the right of each contributing member's name is the date of his or her latest contribution. Whenever one makes a contribution of money, material or time, his or her date will be updated and for new contributors, their name will be added. Folks who have not made a contribution in one year will be dropped from the list.

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*If you are a NMRA member and have made a donation of money, materials and/or time that is not reflected on this list, please notify John Gorman. **THANKS!***

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Division 10 MCR, NMRA Treasurer
September 30, 2009

Sept. 1, 2009 Balance	\$2849.60
Lantern & TP&A Ad Exp.	-84.79
Contributions	50.00
Sept. 30, 2009 Balance	\$2814.81

Scale Reproductions Hobby Shop

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HO & N Scales - NMRA members are eligible for our 10% discount

Weekdays 10 - 7:30, Saturday 10 - 5, Sunday 1 - 5

The Super's Column

By Bill Paulsell

It was nice to be back together at our October meeting. Pete Birdsong came through on short notice with a fine program on building logging disconnects of which he has many on his layout. He also demonstrated software that, among other things, enables one to convert prototype dimensions to scale ones in any scale. It is very useful tool, especially for scratch builders (see bottom left on page 4).

In November we will have a program on detailing plastic rolling stock by Mike Baskette. Mike is a first rate modeler and our former Assistant Superintendent. His programs in the past have always been excellent, so we are in for a treat. We will also visit Ed Sims new layout. This is one we have not seen before, so it will be new to all of us. Maps to Ed's house will be provided.

Tom Miller and I attended the Mid-Central Regional Board Meeting on October 11. Tom is the education chair for the region. The meeting, in Columbus, Ohio, was pretty routine, but I found the reports on the various divisions to be of interest.

One valuable project of the region has been building a data base of people who can do programs and clinics for us. I will share that with Bill Robbins who lines up our programs for us.

The total NMRA membership of the eleven divisions of the region is 1,615. Of those, 65 belong to our division. The largest divisions are 7 with 282, 2 with 252, and 4 with 210. Three of the regions are smaller than we are. I wish so much that more of our members would come to our meetings. They would find them stimulating, informative, and useful for modeling.

Division 8 reported that the majority of its members were in the 50-69 age range with very few under thirty. While many of us began model railroading when we were kids, it seems that now most people come into the hobby at a later age, perhaps after children are grown and during retirement. I am amazed at how many men report that they began the hobby when their wives gave them a train set.

Divisions 3 reports that it has had a series of hands on clinics that have been very popular. Division 7 had a successful flea market and will have a major show in Cincinnati at Lakota West High School October 24-25. They also donate books on model railroading to local libraries.

Division 9 is preparing to host the regional convention in Charleston, West Virginia, May 13-16, 2010. It will be held at the Embassy Suites Hotel.

I reported for our group that we were happy to have a new, more permanent, home for our meetings, had some fine trips in August and September, have adopted a modified NMRA scoring system for Bring and Brag, and look forward to a diorama contest

I hope to see you at the November meeting.

Witless & Clueless: The Continuing Saga of Larry Loungecar and Rivets O'Reilly

Created by Pete Birdsong, written by Mike Armstrong

Rivets: Hi, Larry, whatcha been up to?

Larry: I just finished a letter to that Sandy Spooney guy on that television news show, "59 and ½ Minutes". He made me mad.

Rivets: What did he say?

Larry: Well, he was comparing letters and emails. And he spoke negatively about emails.

Rivets: And you're mad about that?

Larry: Then he said that an email was about as charming as a freight train.

Rivets: Well, he just grew up with the wrong people.

Larry: Personally, I blame his parents, but he ought to know better. So here is my letter. Wanna hear it?

Rivets: Do I have a choice?

Larry: Aw, Rivets, just listen.

Dear Mr. Dumb Ant:

Rivets: Well that'll get his attention.

Larry: About your referring to a freight train as not being very charming. I can only assume that somewhere in your life something really important was neglected in your education.

Rivets: Good, Larry, just tell the guy negative things about his life.

Larry: Just listen... First of all, a freight train is full of art. Did you ever take the time to study the heralds and logos on all the rolling stock. There are some really creative and colorful designs out there. One of the great charms of a freight train is to take note of where all these colorful cars come from around our country. Did you ever stop to consider the fact that you can have fresh fruit in the winter is because of the invention of the refrigerator car (reefer)? And the math involved is important to how many cars a locomotive can pull without losing traction. Did you grow up in a cave?

Rivets: Larry, are you sure you wanna talk about a cave? What if he did grow up in one?

Larry: Rivets, he would deserve it for being so insullin' to all the people who run trains and love to model trains.

Rivets: Ya gotta admit, charm is not the way I would describe a freight train.

Larry: You're tellin' me ya don't think "Susie Q" is cute?

Rivets: She's a cartoon figure.

Larry: I'd take her out!

Rivets: Sigh!

Larry: And here is my conclusion: So, Mister Don't Know The Difference Between Charm and Catfish, if letter is more charming than email, here is one for you. Take this and hang it on your bathroom wall. That way, at least for an old geezer like you, you will be reminded twenty times a day that freight trains have more charm in a grab iron than you got in your great big mouth!

Your friend,

Larry Loungecar

Rivets: Your friend?

Larry: Yeah, I'm tryin' to get on his good side.

Rivets: Charming letter, Larry. Charming.

THE LANTERN
NEWSLETTER FOR NMRA DIVISION 10

143 CHENAULT ROAD
LEXINGTON, KY 40502-2304
DIV10-MCR-NMRA.ORG



NEXT MEETING

2 PM, SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 1
WATKINS BLDG., CENTRAL
CHRISTIAN CHURCH

IMPROVING PLASTIC DETAILS
ON ROLLING STOCK

BRING AND BRAG

ON-LINE STRUCTURES

TOUR

ED SIMS

AROUND THE BEND

MON.	DAY	HOST	PLACE/TIME	EVENT / PROGRAM	TOURS	BRING & BRAG
Nov.	1	Div. 10	Watkins Bldg. Central Christian Church, East Short St., 2 PM	Mike Baskette—Improving plastic details on rolling stock	Ed Sims	On-line Structures
Dec.	6	Div. 10	Central Christian Church, East Short St., 2 PM	Jerry Ashley—Weathering	Alan Brock	Freight Cars
Jan.	3	Div. 10	Central Christian Church, East Short St., 2 PM	Bob Weinheimer—Operations on the PA	Pete Birdsong	Non-steam Locomotives
Feb.	7	Div. 10	Central Christian Church, East Short St., 2 PM	Wendell Greer—Signs	Fred Plymale	Off-line Structures
Mar.	7	Div. 10	Central Christian Church, East Short St., 2 PM	John Gorman—Cab Control		Dioramas

More information on the computer software discussed by Pete Birdsong at the last meeting can be found on the web at

<http://www.stanstrains.com/SoftwareHandyConverter.htm>

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