



The Lantern



Volume 3 Issue 3

Division 10, Mid Central Region

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**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

Our meeting on Sunday April 1st. will be a fun day touring three great layouts in Danville, KY between 1 PM and 4 PM. No formal meeting or clinic is planned but I'm sure your hosts will be pleased to answer all your "how to" questions about their layouts and techniques they use in modeling.

The layouts that will be open are the Danville Model Railroad Museum with in their new location at 814 Stanford Rd. They layout is an updated version of the very nice one they took to Somerset last year. This is a new tour stop for Div. 10 members.

Those of you who saw John Bowling's new building and layout last September will be amazed at the progress he has made. The city is nearing completion, farms have crops planted, rivers are flowing, trees planted and his scenery is great. A demonstration of the roundhouse, controlled by Digitrax, is a must see. John can be found at 406 Maple St at the "Twin Holleys" sign.

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Editor's Notes

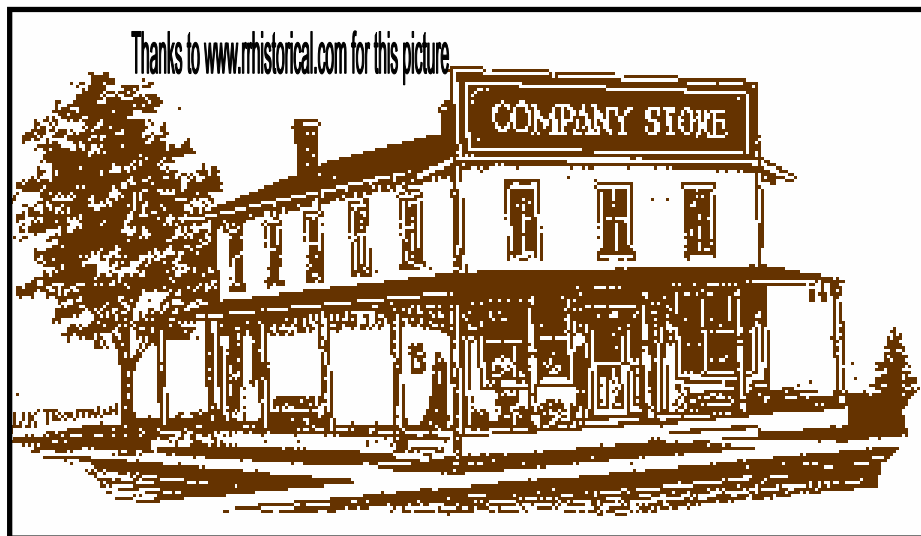
The March meeting, conducted by **Pete Birdsong** in **Fred Plymale's** absence (he was helping his daughter move), beset by a cold, rainy day, lost some in attendance (19, no guests), but got it all back with the program. **Franklin Miller** and **Mike Baskette** had great clinics—Franklin on a super way to make coal loads (talk to him if you missed it), and Mike on detailing diesels—the clinic was as detailed as the model objects. Thanks, guys, for sharing your techniques.

Most Committee Chairs gave reports (see elsewhere in the newsletter).

Randy Coffman donated two sets

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Editor's Notes

of brass angle clamps to be used as door prizes in future meetings.

Points of interest raised in the meeting:

1. It was announced at our meeting that there is increased interest in Garden Railroading in Lexington with activity underway to form a local club as part of the Cincinnati Garden Railway Club. In the April 2001 issue of Model Railroader, page 123, the NMRA has an ad, "Plant the NMRA in your Garden," promoting the modeling of railroads in gardens. Both Division 7 in Cincinnati and Division 10 in Lexington have extended an invitation to Mr. Paul Busse, a NMRA Div. 7 member and outstanding garden railroad architect, to conduct clinics on Garden Railroading for members of both divisions. If he can fit us into his busy schedule, we will promote the clinic with the public to expose as many people as possible to the fun of Garden Railroading.

2. The Somerset Chamber of Commerce is interested in constructing a model of the Somerset C&O yards. It could turn out to be an interesting modeling project if it develops. Let Fred know if you'd be interested.

The Operations Group had its first

(Continued on page 4)

Division 10 Still has several of the MCR exclusive HO scale 50's Classic Mobile Home Trailer kits in stock. Price is \$14.95 each for one, or two for \$25.00. Add \$2.00 S&H for one kit, or \$3.00 for more than one.

To order the trailer kits
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See Mike Baskette also for MCR Pins & Patches:

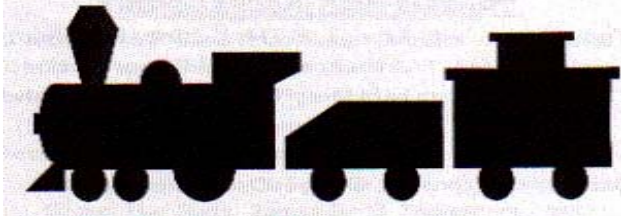
\$3.00 each

“STUFF” & OPPORTUNITIES

Fred Plymale and Mike Armstrong, as part of their Estate Liquidations committee roles, and “networking” in general, occasionally have or know of *members' overstock* situations and other opportunities to acquire “stuff.” For example, Fred has some Atlas HO nickel silver 3' flex track available at \$1.89/section in lots of 10. Get in touch with them to find out if anything is currently available.

Liquidations, generally via a web auction, bear a 15 to 20% fee. Also, the Lantern is in a position to advertise your “overstock” items, for a fee of 10%. Contact Pete Birdsong to arrange for an ad, or Mike or Fred for liquidations.. Also, it's a good idea to come to the Tuesday night meetings. Quite often someone will bring in something he no longer needs, and it is usually bought on the spot.

There's a lot of “stuff” out there collecting dust on shelves. Let's get it circulating!



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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!!

(Continued from page 1)

I spoke with Bob Lawson today and he told me he has just finished his new diorama. His "old" one won Best in Show at Medina last year and the new one will be tough competition at our MCR Convention in Louisville in May. Regardless of how many times you see his layout, on the next visit you will find details you have overlooked. Many modelers have people on their layouts but very few use them as effectively as Bob does relating to each other on the street, in the workplace, or at the train station. Bob is located on the right side of the road about a mile west of 127 on state route 34. Look for a big red caboos and you are there.

Thanks to Dave Reed for providing the nice map of Danville included in this issue of The Lantern with the location of each layout. Bring your camera, don't hurry, and enjoy! Also bring a friend and sign them up as a new member of NMRA Division 10.

If you haven't made your reservation to attend the MCR Convention in Louisville on May 17 to 20, 2001 there is still time. Lots of excellent clinics and tours just 80 miles away. Div. 10 will have an opportunity to host the 2003 MCR convention in Lexington. All we need is your support and help as a convention volunteer. Be the first to step forward.

See you in Danville.

Fred

Committee Chairs

Achievement Program	David Greer: 859 296 4313
Advertising & Programs	Open
Community Activities	Bob Richardson 859 219 1583
Company Store	Mike Baskette 859 278 8150
Contests	Alan Brock 859 269-3250
Conventions & Shows	Wendell Greer 859 272 8731
Estate Liquidations	Mike Armstrong 859 296 4746
Member Aid	Joe Holbrook 859 277 5838
Membership	Franklin Miller 859 269 3205
Newsletter Editor	Pete Birdsong 859 268 1462
Webmaster	Pete Birdsong 859 268 1462

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meeting March 6, and changed the schedule to the 3rd Tuesday of the month (from the 1st Tuesday). In spite of a few equipment "glitches," the session went very well—lots of fun, and the schedule was completed. We're on our way to earning AP points for Chief Dispatcher!

In Appreciation....

Many thanks to our Sustaining and Patron 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 websites. A number next to a name indicates a second or subsequent donation.

PATRONS

Mike Armstrong	Pete Birdsong
Burt Brashear	Alan Brock
Tom Brough	Harold Burks
John Gorman	John Greene
Wendell Greer	Joe Holbrook
Lou Jaquith	Skip Keyser
Bob Lawson (2)	David Mikulec
Fred Plymale	Bob Richardson
Bill Robbins	Ed Sims

SUSTAINING MEMBERS

Jerome Baker	Mike Baskette
Dennis Brennan	Rex Childers
Richard Crane	John Daniel
John Deville	Ray Grosser
Mark Hunt	Lyman Jenkins
Frank Miller	Jim Mink
Bill Paulsell	Frank Randall
David Reed	Richard Rink
J. Roberts	Wes Ross
Ron Saylor	John Stokes

MEMBER PROFILES

John Gorman



John F. Gorman, 54, a native of Lexington, KY, grew up looking out his bedroom window across Paris Pike at the L&N railroad. He went to sleep every night to the whistle and sounds of freight trains as they rolled along the track. How could he not become a model railroader?

As a young teenager he had a modest 027 layout. No scenery, just a 4 x 8 table, and 2 ovals of track, two engines and a few cars. But it was enough to instill a long lasting desire to do it right. At sixteen, his need for a car (a 53 Ford sedan) caused him to sell all his railroading equipment to a neighbor.

Along the way John married Anne Tucker from Paducah, KY and a few years later they had a son, John, Jr. John Sr. moved to his present home on Chenault road about 26 years ago.

His second try at model railroading came when his son was just old enough to reach the track. He bought another 4 x 8 table, some HO engines, track and cars. He set it all up and he and his son watched it go around and around. There just

Witless vs Clueless

*Rivets O'Reilly and Larry Loungecar
"Spaced Out"*

Rivets: Hey, Larry, why 're you lookin' so glum?\

Larry: Well, rivets, remember when I lived in that trailer park, and the only layout I had was a two foot by three foot N Scale that I sat over the sink?

Rivets: Isn't that the one where you lost the Kato Mikado doen the garbage disposal?

Larry: Thanks for remindin' me! But do you remember my major complaint about that layout?

Rivets: Yeah, you said that you had too much track, and not room enough for scenery.

Larry: Well, I moved into that apartment and expanded a little...a two foot by four foot.

Rivets: Yeah, and you still didn't have any room for scenery.

wasn't enough time or money to do much else.

Today, he is less than three years away from retirement. And he says that he has the money and will have the time to do it right. His plans are for a 30 x 25 foot HO layout with cities, mountains, water and of course at least two large rail yards. It will have three main lines and lots of operating possibilities. Look for it on the tour in about five years!

John is a relatively new member of Division 10, but is already quite active—he's a regular attendee of the Tuesday night meetings, and takes the pictures of the meetings and tours which you see on our web site.

Larry: And I moved twice after that and the same thing happened. I got bigger each time, but there still wasn't enough room for scenery. And now here I am, with space for the layout of a lifetime, and I've been working on the design, and you know what?

Rivets: Don't tell me. You still don't have any room for scenery, but there is plenty of track, I bet.

Larry: Yeah, Rivets. I can't figure it out. May layouts keep getting' bigger, but I still don't have room for scenery. I always seem to have more room for rollin' stock, but as far as scenery goes, I always seem to have more space for scenery that doesn't fit. I just don't get it!

Rivets: Well, you know, Larry, I was readin' an article the other day that stated there is a direct correlation between the number of feet of track you lay and the amount of room left for scenery. Did you ever think of tryin' to limit your track?

Larry: And just where would I put all my rollin' stock?

Rivets: How 'bout back in the box?

Larry: You know, Rivets, sometimes you just don't have any imagination.

Rivets: Yeah, Larry, and most of the time you don't have any scenery.

Thanks again to Mike Armstrong for this month's feature.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Achievement Program

David Greer reports there is one Golden Spike award in progress, and several members have started working on points for Chief Dispatcher.

Advertising

Chair open, no report.

Community Activities

Bob Richardson reports: community Activities current project is to begin working with the Boy Scouts of America as counselors for their Railroading Merit Badge program. Details are still coming, so watch for all the news of this emerging and exciting opportunity in next month's Lantern. If you just can't wait, give Bob Richardson a call and he'll tell you what he knows to date, and will be sure to get information to you as soon as he has it.

Company Store

Mike Baskette indicates that Pins, Patches, and Trailer Kits are in good supply and available for sale as indicated elsewhere in the newsletter. Contact him directly to purchase.

Contests

Alan Brock plans to start a "bring and brag" program with our June meeting. The goal of the program is to increase member participation at our monthly meetings. We will give 1 point for participation, 1 point for the model matching that meeting's topic and points based on how members vote on the entries (3=1st, 2=2nd, 1=3rd). Certificates will be awarded each month for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place. At year end we will total the points and give a Modeler of the Year plaque to the highest point holder.

It is important that everyone know that skill level may not have a direct bearing on who totals the highest points. Participation is everything. A member who enters monthly and ties

into the topic can total more points even if their skill level is not that of a member who only participates a time or two. Entries will be given a number so that members will not know whose model they are voting for. This will help assure that members are voting for the model and not the modeler.

Following are the categories for the rest of the year:

Jun: Engines 1x diesel 1x steam
Jul: Freight cars
Aug: Houses
Sep: Passenger cars
Oct: Urban building
Nov: Caboose
Dec: Free category

Contact Alan for more information.

Conventions & Shows

Wendell Greer: (no report)

Estate Liquidations & Treasury

Mike Armstrong reports:

This is only from my perspective as treasurer, but our first year has been a pretty successful one. Although we are not necessarily trying to make a lot of money, it is good to have some in the bank. Currently we have a little over \$3000. That is a pretty good deal, I think.

We have received money from the following sources:

1. Member donations. If all our members would donate ten or twenty bucks a year, that would keep our newsletter going out.

2. Estate Sales. The first one came by as a fluke when one of our members told me of a lady whose husband died. She turns out to be a German countess who fled Germany during WW II. Dealing with her was a real trip: she thought retail prices should be paid for the stuff. All in all she did pretty well and we received 15% of the income.

Not that I am a greedy blood sucker or any thing of the sort, but I felt that 15%

was not near enough for the work that involves. For the countess it meant tearing down a layout (something I don't plan to do any more thank you very much). Now, the fee for estates is twenty per cent.

We have had three other estates, one mostly brass which our esteemed Benevolent Dictator sold and two other estates which he came up with at our show in Sommerset.

Selling the estates means a lot of trips to the post office and keeping track of things on ebay. We have also sold stuff at train meets, but most of it went out on ebay, where I do think we get the best prices. There seems to be an attitude, especially for really good merchandise, that no one is going to out bid me. It has been fun talking to modelers around the country. Most are pleased to know they are helping the NMRA, MDR, Div 10. Me too.

3. Advertisements: five or six people advertised with us

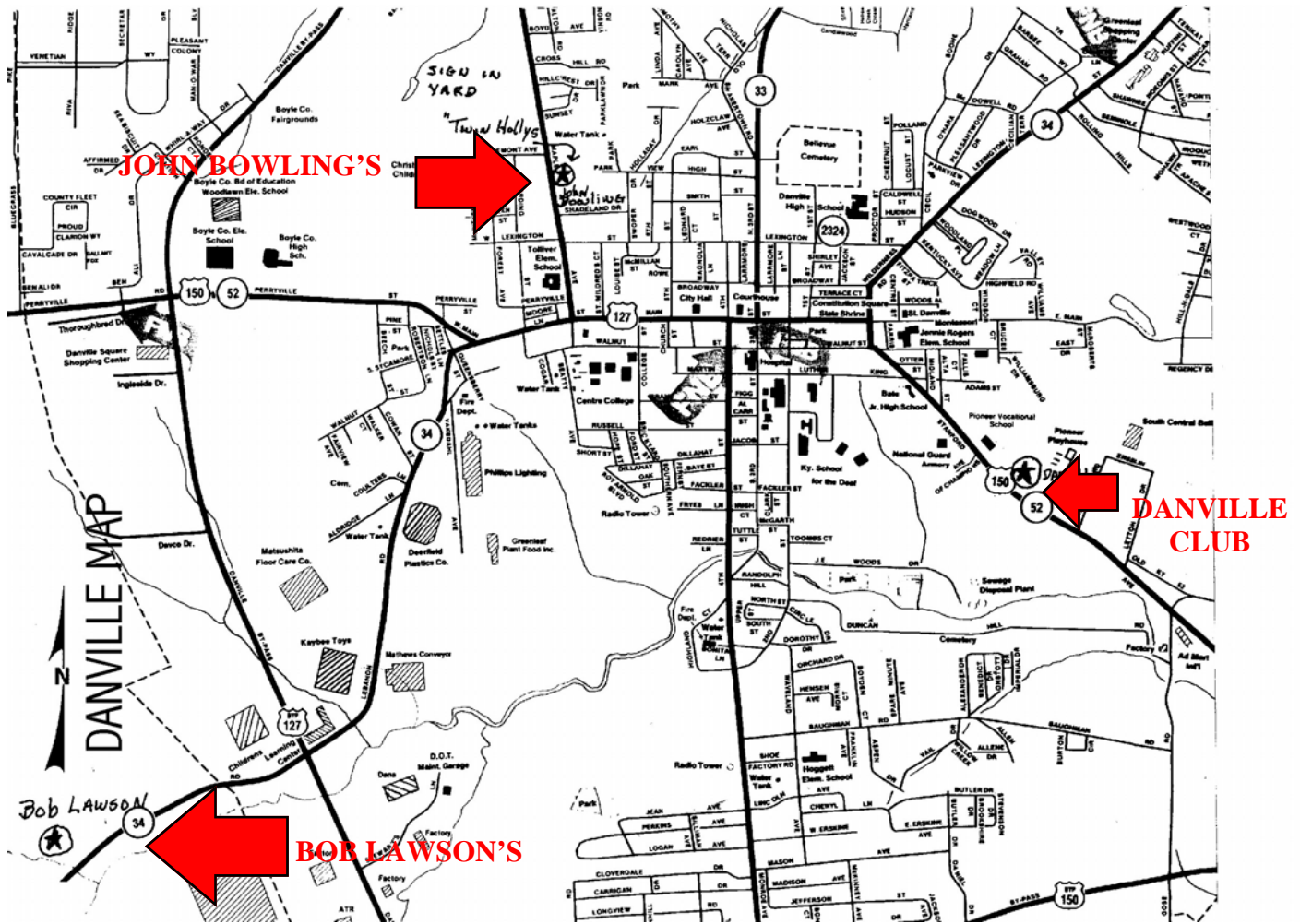
in the Lantern at 100 bucks a crack. It has been over a year and time to contact those people again. Up to me, I guess. Fred began talking to potential advertisers and maybe Pete Birdsong as well, but we did okay there.

4. Merchandise donations from our members have helped as well. I have just finished selling some engines and passenger cars from a members donations.

Even though we have a little over \$3000., and that is good, we really have scrambled to get there. We can always use

the extra money as a back up for something, but you as members have been great about supporting the NMRA and

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COMMITTEE REPORTSI hope you do so in the future.

As the Bartles & James geezers used to say: THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT.

Member Aid

Joe Holbrook assisted Alan Brock with a track wiring problem, and Milled three N-scale frames for Pete Birdsong to accommodate DCC decoders.

Membership

Franklin Miller reports: a table was set up at the LCCA show on March 17. The Division 10 display board was set up. Sample copies of the NMRA Bulletin, Model Railroader's Introduction to Model Railroading, a schedule of upcoming Division 10 events, and applications for membership in the NMRA were made available for the show at-

tendees. A drawing for a free one year NMRA membership was also conducted. Registration forms required for the drawing provides the Division with additional contacts for future events and increases interest in the Division

Newsletter Editor

Pete Birdsong reports nothing new, but reminds everyone that the newsletter will accept articles and features from members, and that all members ought to submit a "Member Profile" feature. Also, we'll accept your ads to dispose of excess equipment for a small commission.

Webmaster

Pete Birdsong will update the web with news of the Operations Group periodically.

We ought to consider at some time elimination of mailing newsletter hard copies to members who are willing to just view it on the web site. This facility has been available for some time now.



Thanks to www.ribbonrail.com/ for the picture

AROUND THE BEND...

April

April 1: NMRA MCR Div. 10, 1:00 pm : Danville Trip; see map inside.

April 13: BGRRC 7:30PM, Meadowthorpe Community Center, Lexington, KY: a three in one modeling presentation. Franklin Miller with a presentation on building coal loads, followed by David Greer describing the installation of switch machines, and Doug Clarke with a presentation on American Flyer trains.

May

May 4—12: Smoky Mtn. Railfest: SER Convention in Knoxville.

May 11: BGRRC 7:30PM, Meadowthorpe Community Center, Lexington, KY: Presentation by Lou Jaquith

May 12 (SATURDAY!): NMRA MCR Div. 10: *LIVE STEAM!* A day of fun at the J.O. Johnson farm. You'll get an opportunity to operate live steam 1 1/2 "/foot scale. It doesn't get much better than this!

May 17-20: MCR convention: *The Thoroughbred Express*, in Louisville. Link to their site from our web page.

June

June 3: NMRA MCR Div. 10 Beaumont Library, Lexington, KY. Program to be determined.

July

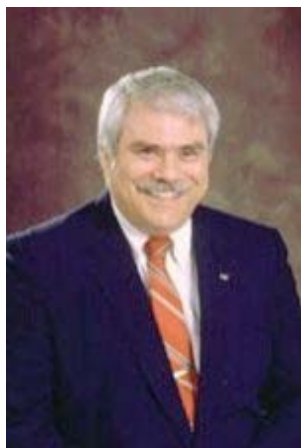
July 8-15: NMRA National Convention and National Train Show in St. Louis, MO. Link to their site from our web page.

July 27-28: LCCA National Convention, Lexington Civic Center.



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Picture It! (See Inside)



STAMP