



The Lantern



Volume 5 Issue 06

Division 10, Mid Central Region

June, 2003



**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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June Clinic Features Wendell Greer, MMR ABC's of Signaling

The subjects to be covered are:

- Various types of signals
- Signal Aspects
- Prototype Operation
- Practical Model RR Signaling
- Availability of Model RR Signals
- Making Signals
- Methods of Wiring Signals

Hopefully it will take about an hour. Most of it is Power Point slides.

-Wendell

Message From The Superintendent

Pete Birdsong (MCR Secretary) and I attended the MCR regional meeting April 25th in Cincinnati. Following are the highlights.

The board of directors of NMRA has approved a long range plan. The plan will be on a ballet this fall or winter. The plan will be emailed to everyone.

There were no division reports.

King Pin – The 2nd quarter is out on the web site.

Web Master – The editor would like more articles on layout tours and “how to”.

Conventions:

- ◆ MCR 2004 Div 2 Pittsburgh, PA May 13-16
- ◆ MCR 2005 Div 5 Austinburg, OH May 12-15

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NMRA Achievement Program Explained!

What do we all have more of than siding space to put them in? With exception of the grains of ballast on our layouts we probably have more pieces of rolling stock than anything else. Ever wonder if any of those cars can count towards the Achievement Program's Master Builder – Cars certificate? Well if you have eight cars that are super detailed and four of them scratch built you may already qualify.

To earn your Master Builder – Cars certificate you need to build eight rolling stock models. They may be any scale and from any era, must be operable (that is, stay on the track when pulled) and of four different types, such as boxcar, tank car, refrigerator car, etc.

One of the eight must be a passenger car or a car normally found in a passenger train. Each car must be super de-

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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 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	Chris Cord
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

Witless vs. Clueless

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



Created by ‘Railroad’ Pete Birdsong
Written by Mike Armstrong

Rivets: Hi, Larry, how’s your mod-elin’ goin’? Any new projects lately?

Larry: Well, Rivets, I’ll tell ya. I have made a monumental decision. I am not going to ever begin another project. . . at least not in the foreseeable future.

Rivets: Gosh, Larry, I hate to hear that. You gettin’ burned out or somethin’?!

Larry: Oh no! Not me! It is just that I have so many projects goin’ that I can’t seem to get any one of ‘em finished. And to make matters worse, I don’t even know where to begin to finish one.

Rivets: It can’t be that bad. Come one over to your workbench. I’ll just choose a project for you and you finish it. Here, try this one. It looks pretty good. What is it?

Larry: That is a brewery.

Rivets: Well, ya got it painted. Got some walls up. Finish it!

Larry: I can’t. I liked the windows, so I put ‘em in that church kit over there. Now I can’t find any windows that fit the brewery.

Rivet: Okay, then go ahead and finish the church.

Larry: I can’t. I liked the steeple and thought it would look good on the school house, so I put it there. Now I can’t find anything that looks good in that smooth spot on the roof of the church.

Rivets: Well finish the school house.

Larry: I can’t. I used the doors in the gas station.

Rivets: Larry, you are startin’ to get next to me! Then finish the stupid gas station!!!

Larry: I can’t. I used the bay doors on the loading dock in the factory over there.

Rivets: Sigh! Well, what about the factory?! Surely you can finish it!

Larry: Well, I could ‘cept that the fronts looked so darn good I used them to decorate my bedroom and den. I made switch plates out of them.

Rivets: Larry, I know how ya can finish all those projects at once. See that big bare spot on your layout over there?

Larry: Yeah?

Rivets: Okay, spray paint yer unfinished projects all black, set them on the bare spot and put up a sign: “Chicago after the big fire.”

Larry: But I model the south west!

Rivets: Okay, then don’t paint any of ‘em. Just pile ‘em all up. Put up a sign: “San Francisco after the big earthquake.” Best of all, it ends all the projects at once and ya can start all over with a clean slate!

Larry: Rivets! You’re a genius!!



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In Appreciation....

Many thanks to our Sustaining and Patron members for 2003 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. A number next to a name indicates a second or subsequent donation.

2003 PATRONS

Mike Armstrong	Pete Birdsong	Alan Brock
Howard Coleman	John Deville	Fritz Dutro
John Gorman	Robin Grider	Ray & Renee
Lou Jaquith	Skip Keyser	Bob Lawson
Bill Paulsell	Fred Plymale	Bill Robbins
Ron Saylor	Mike Walter	

2003 SUSTAINING MEMBERS

Richard Crane	Phil Ditchen
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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!!

Notes form Fritz

This month we salute all the Garden railroaders in our midst and present them with both a certificate of fortitude and a life preserver so that they can go visit their trains.

I know coming from snow country that when the weather is inclement the amount of modeling goes up. If this follows true to form there should be a record number of entries in bring and brag this month. Speaking of B&B, this months category is "OPEN, OPEN, OPEN!!!!"..... meaning no excuses for not having an entry.

Our clinic this month will be presented by one of our resident MMRs, Wendell Greer. Last month on the layout tour we got an opportunity to see Wendell's new signaling plant in operation. This month Wendell will tell us all about his experiences with signaling. Wendell's straight-forward way of presenting a clinic should allow anyone a better understanding of signaling by the end of the clinic.

On the layout tour agenda.....I need your help. It seems that we have visited most of the layouts within the club at least once and others several times. Being that many heads are better than one, if you know of a layout we haven't visited or if you have a layout tucked away that we don't know about, drop me a line. I am also looking at replacing some of the tours with other, as yet undetermined features that may have interest to the membership.

Looking forward to seeing you again this month. Remember, B&B.

-Fritz

Treasurer's Report

The verified balance in our account is \$4,284.83. We also have \$3.00 in cash waiting for next Patron or Sponsor donation to deposit.

-Fred

Division 10 Club Car

Our Board of Directors has decided that it would be good to fund a Club Car project. Before any more decisions are made we want to hear from you. We are considering an HO scale At-hearn box car custom painted and lettered by George Campbell. The sample he sent us recently was a 50 foot Southern box car, and for those of you who do not know George's work, it is extremely well done. One of the advantages of getting cars from George is that he can uniquely number each one. Another feature that George will provide, to make this a true Division 10 club car, is lettering with instructions for the return of the car to Div. 10; Lexington, KY.

We need to know what the Division 10 members would prefer. Do you like the idea of a box car? How many of you would only be interested in another scale? What road name would interest you the most? I like C&O, others want Southern, L&N, etc. We need to pick the one that we believe will sell the most. What era would you prefer, the 30s, 40s, 60s, etc.? Older cars will still fit on layouts of a newer era but, of course, a car made in the 60s would not work out too well on a 30s era layout.

We need to know how you feel about this idea. Please contact a Division 10 officer or Board member and tell him what you would prefer. We want to make a decision in the next several weeks so let us know your preference now. It will be impossible to make everybody's ideal car, but we need to know what the majority of the club wants to do.

NMRA Long Range Plan

The NMRA Board of Trustees has released a working draft of the Long Range Planning document to the membership. This document can be seen in it's entirety on the NMRA website at: <http://www.nmra.org/news/LRP.pdf>

Division 10 is Considering Special Workshop Sessions

The board has discussed having workshop sessions on model building, air brushing and/or other subjects of interest to our members. One idea is to have a Saturday morning 3 to 4 hour workshop lead by an experienced/proven expert. The concept is to pay a small fee (\$10 to \$15) for materials and to leave with a completed project for your layout or display. If this idea is of interest to you please let one of the Division 10 officers know the type of project you would prefer. Our email and/or phone numbers are on the front page of this newsletter.

Correction

Dear Sir:

As the CEO of the Durham, Oakhill, and Ohio RR, also known as the Doo Line, I would like to make a clarification on a recent article in your publication. You recently ran an article on the Dew Valley RR located in the western part of WV. The Dew Valley RR is a fine railroad run by Wendell Greer and has a corporate slogan of "The Gold Finch Route." I noted that in the article you incorrectly referred to the railroad as the Dew Line. This confusion is unfortunately in all too common between the two railroads. One method our sales representatives use to help our clients remember the Doo Line name, is that another railroad in the northern plains had a similar name. The Dew Valley RR on the other hand has a famous stone viaduct crossing a large valley.

Thanks for doing a quality job on the Lantern and web site. I know you will want to inform your talented staff of this memory aid in hopes of eliminating any future confusion.

Sincerely,

David E. Greer
CEO, Doo Line RR

Super's Message (Continued from page 1)

- ◆ MCR 2006 No bid.
- ◆ National 2007 Detroit
- ◆ National 2008 Anaheim
- ◆ National 2010 Milwaukee

Election – MCR:

- ◆ Howard Smith – President
- ◆ Lou Dalton – Vice President
- ◆ Judy Logan – Treasurer
- ◆ Pete Birdsong – Secretary
- ◆ Mike Brestel – Trustee

Calendars – NMRA is looking for photos. Deadline is end of July. If you wish to submit one, send it to Brent Lambert in Chattanooga.

I would like to encourage more of you to attend the MCR conventions. You can gain a lot of knowledge from the clinics and a lot of ideas from visiting some great layouts. They are very well worth the time and effort to attend them. One of the best ways to learn is to see what others are doing.

I would like to call your attention to our name tags. They are really nice looking and not too expensive. If you all wore one – we would get to know each others' names quicker. See Chris Cord if you would like one.

A suggestion was made in our last meeting if each of us would make a structure in a monthly meeting, instead of having a clinic. If this hits your hot button, let our program director, Fritz Dutro, know.

There will be a train show at Berea, L&N Days, on June 7th. This is always a nice show. Trains will go by the depot on a "slow order", there are exhibits, stuff to buy, Div 10 N scalers will have a layout running, and there will be a display by the Bluegrass Model Railroad Club. Be sure and make plans to attend.

We will have some exciting events for you this summer, so be sure and keep your dates open for your railroad club.

-Bill

Bring n' Brag May, 2003

Freight cars was the theme for May's Bring n' Brag. Everyone was a winner as there were just three modeling entries and three photos!

In the modeling contest, Mike Walter and Fritz Dutro tied for First place and Bill Robbins took Second.

The photo contest was won by Randy Coffman. Fritz Dutro took Second and Bill Robbins cleaned up with Third!

Congratulations to all who entered! Award certificates will be handed out at the next meeting on June 1. The category for June is 'anything goes' so there is no excuse for only three entries in this free-for-all category

Editor's Notes

I attended two NMRA regional conventions in the last several weeks and they were both well worth the time and cost.

On April 25th, 26th & 27th I attended the NMRA Mid Central Region's 'Springdale Express' 2003 convention. It was a four day event for those who had the time. I arrived the second day, on Friday, and immediately started going to clinics.

Rushing in at 10:30 am I attended Dick Flock's clinic 'Modeling Trucks of the 40s and 50s'. This was a great slide presentation which focused on trucks that could be kitbashed to fit the 40s and 50s.

At 1:00 pm I went to Sam Swanson's clinic on 'Finishing Models'. As always Sam's clinic was overflowing with valuable techniques and tips for the serious modeler. I could not take it all in in one hour. I'll get back to this clinic again.

2:30 pm found me in a clinic on building a Model Railroad using 'Foamboard Construction' given by the daddy of Styrofoam, John Bruchnull of "Eastern Loggers" fame. John gave a

AP Explained (Continued from page 1)

tailed. Superdetailing can include adding separate ladders, grab irons, after-market brake wheels, trucks, wheels, roof walks, etc. Basically, replacing molded on details with separately applied details counts as superdetailing.

Four of the eight cars must also be scratch built. Scratch built means you made the model using raw materials and plans. Craftsman kits do not count as scratch built; however, you can use the plans from a kit and buy wood or styrene and copy the kit. As long as you purchase the raw materials and do the layout and cutting, it counts. If you mold parts, the masters must be scratch built to count. Completely scratch built models are allowed to have 10% of their content be commercially made parts. These items include such things as wheels, trucks, brake fittings, and sheet siding to name a few.

As in most achievement categories, the final step is to have your models judged, either contest judged or merit judged. Four of the cars must earn at least 87.5 points to qualify. Judging will be based on the model's construction, detail, conformity, finish and lettering, and amount of scratch built parts.

As I have stated before, the purpose of the Achievement Program is to encourage you to broaden your modeling skills. So if you haven't scratch built or superdetailed any rolling stock, why not give it a try? You might find a new dimension of the hobby that you enjoy.

-David

great clinic on using horizontal laminations of foamboard in place of conventional roadbeds and scenery bases.

At 4:00 pm I was entertained by Larry Bonhaus, the "Tree Man" with a fascinating clinic entitled 'Weeds to Trees'. Larry demonstrated how common garden flowers and boarders are converted to trees. All in about two minutes (each). Using yarrow, sedum, and other plants along with flocking and spray

(Continued on page 6)

Editor's Notes (Continued from page 5)

paint Larry taught us how he makes superior quality N scale trees for less than 10 cents each.

By 7:00 pm I was getting a little tired, but not too tired to attend a great clinic by John Wissinger, MMR. His clinic on 'The Mechanics of Layout Planning' was all about how to convert the layout of your dreams into an actual operating railroad with few changes and mistakes. John relies on his many years as a professional designer for methods to design and develop layout plans.

At 8:30 pm I enjoyed a really great slide presentation on 'The C&Os Cheviot Hill'. Mike Brestel has captured the birth, life and death of the Cheviot Hill line through photographs of his and others. His personal knowledge of the history of this railroad is quite amazing!

My last clinic of the day, at 10 pm, was a very useful clinic / discussion led by Frank Koch on the NMRA Achievement Program. I found out that I may be further along than I thought. Is the title of MMR in the future for me?

After a good sleep Friday night I was back at it Saturday morning at 10:30. This clinic has changed the entire way I think about model railroading. Alan McClelland, MMR gave a mind expanding explanation of his future and past V&O railroads and why they work! And on top of all that, after getting a chance to meet Mr. McClelland, I had the good fortune of arranging to purchase two sections of the old V&O railroad. WOW!

At 12:30 pm I went to the clinic by Pete Moffett, MMR on 'Open Loads'. Pete displayed a variety of different loads that included bulk commodities, wood chips, lumber loads, steel coils, compressed scrap, steel slabs, etc. This was a great clinic for getting ideas and learning tips on load construction.

My next clinic was a 2:00 pm and I caught Tony Koester's 'Nickel Plate Road's Clover Leaf District'. Tony explained the design and construction

(Continued on page 7)

2003 Bring n' Brag Scores

MODELS			PHOTOS		
High to Low or Tie	May	YTD	High to Low or Tie	May	YTD
Fritz Dutro (1st)	5	25	Fritz Dutro (2nd)	4	23
Mike Walter (1st)	5	16	Randy Coffman (1st)	5	10
Bill Robbins (2nd)	4	12	Howard Coleman		6
Howard Coleman		9	Pete Birdsong		5
Mike Baskette		4	Mike Baskette		4
Pete Birdsong		2	Bill Robbins (3rd)	3	3
Chris Cord		2			

Bring n' Brag Schedule for 2003

June - 'Anything Goes': All classifications

July - Favorite Trains

Aug. - On-line Structures (except stations)

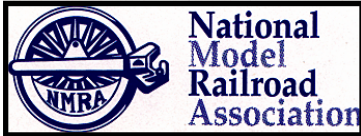
Sept. - Diesel Locomotives

Oct. - Commercial Structures: Industrial, businesses, municipal.

Nov. - Passenger Cars

Dec. - Open Loads: Flat Cars, Gondolas and Intermodal

- Ron Kercheval



AROUND THE BEND

MON	DAY	EVENT	PLACE/TIME	PROGRAM	TOUR	CONTEST
JUNE	1	MCR DIV 10	Tates Creek Library, Lexington off of Tates Creek Road Sunday, 2:00 pm	Wendell Greer, MMR on Signaling: practice and logic	Pat Gerstle's Sn3 Layout	'Anything Goes'
JUNE	13	BGRRC	Meadowthorpe Community Center, Friday, 7:30 pm	Dr Jerry Rose and Mr. Cotten will present a program on Railroad Bridges with emphasis on C&O bridges in Northeast Kentucky.		
JULY	13	MCR DIV 10	Ray & Renee Grosser's (Directions to Follow) Sunday, 2:00 pm	To Be Announced	Ray & Renee Grosser's Nostalgia Trip Soo Line HO Railroad	Favorite Trains
JULY	13-19	NMRA Nat'l Convention	Toronto, Canada	See Website for full details: http://www.ml2003.com/pages/home.html		
AUG	3	MCR DIV 10	Assorted Hosts Danville, KY Sunday, 1:00 pm	Self Guided Tour (Directions to Follow)	Bob Lawson John Bowling Robin Grider	On-line Structures (except stations)
MAY 2004	13-16	MCR Convention	Four Points Sheraton, Cranberry, PA	Contact Div 2 for more information		
JULY 2004	4-11	NMRA Nat'l Convention	Seattle, WA	See Website for full details: http://www.nmra2004.org/		
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			

Editor's Notes (Continued from page 6)

challenges encountered on his steam to diesel transition era Nickel Plate Road HO layout.

My last 'clinic' was a great question and answer session about the NMRA with Allen Pollock, Mike Brestel and John Roberts, MMR. A lot of issues were discussed. I was a little disappointed about the future of the bulletin. You can read about this and other plans in the draft of the NMRA long range plan (see page 4).

After the clinics I had time to visit the

contest room and see all the great models up for judging. For someone like me who will have a few hours a day of extra time on their hands, this room held a lot of inspiration. The evening was concluded with a great banquet where awards were given to several of our division members.

On Sunday, Bob Lawson and I toured many of the great layouts in the Cincinnati area. We spent 8 hours and covered well over 100 miles but we got to see some great work. I will be making a CD of the layouts I photographed. If you want one please send an email to

jgorman@earthling.net and I'll get one to you when I have time to finish them.

On May 9th and 10th Fred Plymale, Bob Lawson and I attended the South-eastern Region's "Tennessee Bound" 2002 convention and train show. Again I attended many clinics as well as spending a few dollars at the train show. More about this trip later!

See you at the June meeting!

-John

**Next Meeting:
Tates Creek Library
Lexington,
Sunday, June 1,
at 2:00 pm**



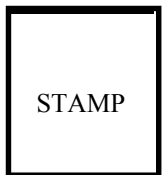
**Clinic:
Wendell Greer, MMR
on
Signaling: Practice and Logic**

**Layout Tour:
Pat Gerstle's
Sn3 Layout**

**Bring & Brag:
'Anything Goes'**

The Lantern

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***Find Out About
the NMRA's
Long Range Plan!***

***Information on
Page 4***

(See Inside)
