The Lantern

SEPTEMBER 2008

VOLUME 10, ISSUE 9

Cincinnati - Northern Kentucky Model Rail Tour

Travel itinerary:

- Leave Turfland Mall at 8 AM, Sat., Sept. 6, heading north to near exit 29 of OH I-75.
- Arrive at Bob Lawson's about 10:20. View Bob's layout. Lunch at 11:30 and leave about noon.
- Drive southeast around I-275. Arrive at John Listerman's about 12:35. Visit John's huge, artistic B&O layout. Leave about 2 PM.
- Drive southwest around I-275 to KY 17. (Optional: Stop at Johnnie's Toys near Ft. Wright). Arrive at Perry Simpson's about 3 PM. See Perry's large L&N layout. Leave at 4 PM for the return to Lexington.

Railroad details, by Bob Lawson

Bob Lawson... The railroad is modeled with the idea of the CNO&TP division of the Southern Railway. This division runs from Cincinnati to Chattanooga, a distance of 330 miles. The era is between 1945 and 1951. The railroad is set in a 34' x 52' room, divided by the stairway entrance. The crew lounge and workshop are attached. One side of the room is about 85% complete. The completed area represents Tennessee, north of Chattanooga. It is mountainous with coal mining, coal yards, and five small towns. There is a steep line for shay locomotives to travel to a sawmill and logging operation.

On the other side of the aisle is a large yard for arriving and departing trains. This yard is bordered by a number of industrial buildings for switching operations. The yard also leads to a locomotive servicing area for steam and diesel. Benchwork is completed across the rear wall to reverse trains. There are a large number of completed buildings, and dioramas are planned as the railroad progresses. The

railroad has plans for operations, with four mainlines, two Southern and two NC&StL.

John Listerman... John is a retired commercial artist. He models the B&O during the period up to 1940. He has an extremely well planned layout with a great track plan for operations. It predominantly runs point-topoint. His backdrops are nothing short of magnificent, which he painted. John's scenery is some of the most realistic around. His railroad is not only very large, but is a nearly completed masterpiece. He has it all. Several locomotive terminals, yards, towns, coal mines, industries, beautiful mountains, curving rivers, all like you have never seen modeled before.

John, being an artist, has an eye for blending his backgrounds into his buildings and scenes. He has used combinations of old photos, building kit box fronts, paintings, flat buildings, and more to create a myriad of ideas with a good operating rail line. This is a great layout to experience.

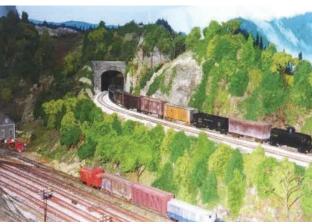
Perry Simpson...Perry has a mostly completed, immense railroad layout. He models the L&N during the period 1945 through 1956.

He is one of the best modelers around when you look at his locomotives and rolling stock. His works are very much prototypical.

His railroad is a coal hauler. The motive power is mostly steam. He has 22 steamers, most of them with sound. Perry has beautiful backdrops painted by John Listerman, along with mountain areas. He has a large roundhouse with a very large adjacent freight yard. A double ended visible staging yard is nearly complete behind one wall of backdrop.

Perry is modeling the EK subdivision of the L&N going to Hazard, Kentucky, through Haddix. At Hazard, he has a locomotive servicing area with a turntable, roundhouse, and other supporting items. This area has a single track winding through curves, arriving at various coal facilities. He runs smaller steam through this area.

Perry is also modeling the area near Latonia in the 1954 —56 dieselized era. He has a number of very accurate L&N diesels, and a large display of passenger cars. Perry's trains operate well on this scenic, enjoyable railroad.



Meet at Turfland Mall before 8 AM, Saturday, September 6th, for car pooling.

Read Fred Plymale's comments on page 5.

John Listerman's layout

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The Lantern is a monthly 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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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 members to help with financial support to The Lantern and our website and the Division 10 train shows. 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 money, materials and time should be reported to John Gorman so that he can keep track of them.

To the right of each contributor'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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<u>THANKS!</u>

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Thanks to all the many willing hands who helped to set up, staff, and take down for our swap meet in conjunction with the Blue Grass Railroad Museum's first annual Trains, Planes, and Automobiles show. The show was a lot of fun, with train rides, vintage cars, street rods, nostalgic music, radio-controlled model airplanes, fire trucks, good food, great weather, good company, and a general good time by all.

Pete, Bill, Lou, and Tom at the swap meet in front of the Owen-Tutty Railroad and Candy Mining Company.

MEMBER AID

by Bill Paulsell

Our Division 10 is blessed with a huge amount of talent, including expertise in structure building, electronics, DCC, operation, and general trouble shooting. Members are ready to offer help to anyone building a layout. Perhaps you are thinking about getting into DCC, trying your hand a building a craftsman kit, designing a yard, weathering rolling stock, casting rocks, creating a mountain, setting up a system for operation, or any number of things that are part of model railroading. We have people who can help.

The question is, whom do I call?

The board would like to create a directory of members who are willing to offer assistance. If you would like to be on the list of helpful members, we will have a sign up at our October meeting on October 5 at Beaumont Library. Think it over. Many beginners need some advice, and those of us in the hobby for a long time would appreciate help in areas where we need to improve our skills. You do not need to be an expert in every area. We can refer people to those who have skills we may not have.

If you are unable to attend that meeting and would like to help, send an email to Member Aid chair Fred Plymale at f.plymale@insightbb.com. We will publish a list in the Lantern and will want to update it from time to time.

Changes Needed to Improve Bring 'n Brag!

Our 2008-09 Bring n' Brag season will be kicking off in October. Hope all of you have had a happy and healthy summer and are looking forward to getting back to modeling. In last month's Lantern I mentioned our schedule would be in this issue. You will notice we have only six contests planned this season.

Although we are truly blessed with many outstanding and up and coming modelers, some of our monthly Bring n' Brag contests have had poor participation. Several years ago, we more or less adopted the Bring n' Brag formats of Divisions 7 and 8 and had nine or ten contests per year with some categories being quite specialized. Let's shoot for fewer, but more meaningful Bring n' Brags this coming season with more entries!

In October, we will be having a Show and Tell with no voting. This would be a good time to share with the group any works in progress or get ideas for the upcoming season. We will still be giving out a free raffle ticket to those who participate.

In November, we will be having a Model Photography contest. We have had many excellent railfan entries over the years but too few model photos. The subjects do not have to be of models that you made.

The intent is to get more of you to take photos of layouts and models. One can railfan just as well in 1:87 or 1:160 scale rather than having to fly to Alaska or Colorado! Be sure to take your cameras with you when we go to Cincinnati on September 6! We will not be having a modeling contest until December to allow modelers more time to prepare their entries. See you next time!

Bring N'Brag Rules

Points are awarded for models as follows: One point is given for your first entry; a second point is given if that entry is "On Topic". You can have additional entries but you can only be awarded "entry" points for one item each month. Following peer judging, three points are awarded for First Place, two points for Second Place, and one point for Third Place. Multiple entries can each win points for plac-

Bring N' Brag Schedule

2008-09

October Show and Tell (No voting)

November Model Photography December Freight Cars (Including

Non-Revenue)

January Off-Line Structures

February Locomotives (Including

Traction)

March On-Line Structures

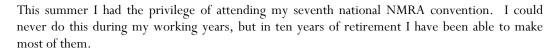
April Passenger Cars (Including Non-Revenue)

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NMRA National Convention

Bv Bill Paulsell





This year the convention was in Anaheim, California, July 13-19. Around 1400 people attended, some from other countries. I talked to two men from New Zealand, and there were others from far away places.

Most of the clinics I attended were very good. Among them were clinics on making resin castings, scratch building, operation, civil engineering, animation, weathering, and DCC troubleshooting. At a clinic on making commercial turnouts operate better, the clinician took a Walther's turnout, took it apart, and put it back together in ways that improved it.

At any given time there were half a dozen clinics offered, so one had to be selective. One clinic that is always popular is Tony Koester's annual report on the progress of his new layout. Tony is a regular columnist for *Model Railroader* magazine. He tore up his mountain layout, the Allegheny Midland, and is now building one that models the Nickel Plate Railroad across Indiana. It is a huge two level layout, and is now far enough along for operating sessions. He is very careful about historical accuracy.

I enjoyed the two clinics on operation, but both clinicians used systems that require more paperwork than I want to do. A simple switch list is enough for me. Still, if people enjoy a system, that's what counts. I did join the operation SIG (special interest group). They have a very helpful quarterly publication on operation.

I only went on one layout tour, an evening tour. Most of them were all day tours. We visited three layouts. One was basically rural except for a couple of yards. It has excellent workmanship and ran flawlessly.

The second was built in a corner of a very small room. It is beautiful! The scenery is urban, big city, and the modeling is first class. Although the curves are tight, a cab forward articulated led a train of refers around the layout with no problems. It is an example of an excellent layout in a small space. The modeling and detail are very impressive.

The third layout was an effort to model the Saint Louis Union Station. It is an around the room layout with the station on a peninsula. Obviously, it is somewhat compressed, but none the less impressive. There is not a lot of scenery yet, but it ran well and one could see how it is going to develop.

Layout tours take a long time because few people have room for a busload of model railroaders in their layout rooms. We had to take turns going in, so there is a good bit of waiting. Still, that provided opportunities for good conversations during the waits.

The end of the convention train show was a bit of a disappointment. The major manufacturers were there, showing off their new products, but not selling anything. There were not many vendors, but enough to make it interesting and to deplete my wallet. There were about 15 layouts in every scale from N to G, and it was fun to see them.

One highlight was the contest room. The high quality of modeling is unbelievable. They all looked like first class models to me, but the judges gave lower scores than I expected. You have to be an exceedingly excellent modeler to have any hope of winning in a national contest.

Next year's convention will be in Hartford, Connecticut. At this point, I am planning to go. The 2010 one will be in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. The conventions are fun and I always learn new skills and techniques. The NMRA is a great organization.



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The Super's Column

By Bill Paulsell

The trip to the Grosser's layouts was great. They were warm and gracious hosts, patiently answering our questions, showing us things, feeding us, and making us feel welcome. There was a bit of sadness knowing that their magnificent layout has been sold, but there is excitement about the new O-scale layout that will take its place. They already have a basic layout in the barn with some nice Soo Line equipment on it. Renee' has built some new structures for it, and soon it will be moved into the layout building.

Now we have another layout treat on September 6th. On that Saturday we will go to the Cincinnati area to visit Bob Lawson's new layout as well as two others that are outstanding. Bob will provide lunch for us. We will meet at Turfland Mall between the Home Depot and O'Charley's to carpool, leaving at 8 AM Saturday morning. This trip will take the place of our usual Sunday meeting for September.

Bob is an excellent modeler and has done clinics for us in the past. I hope you will travel to take advantage of this great opportunity to see his and two other layouts.

On the first Sunday of October, we will resume our regular monthly meetings. Assistant Superintendant Bill Robbins has programs lined up through next Spring and into the Summer. These will present us with opportunities to learn new modeling skills, expand our enjoyment of model railroading, and see member's layouts.

TREASURER'S Report July 31, 2008

Beginning balance	\$3,366.03		
Expenses:			
Lantern	(89.86)		
Swap Meet Publicity	(211.32)		
Deposits:			
Contributions	60.00		
Swap Meet Table Fees	120.00		
Ending Balance:	\$3.244.85		



Grosser's new O-scale layout

Fred Plymale's comments on the Saturday, Sept. 6th road trip......

Bob has worked some dioramas into his Cincinnati layout but the structures and overall design are the highlights. He does have several dioramas that are not yet part of the unfinished space. All of his locomotives have sound.

I think good water is difficult to model but John Listerman's layout is the first really good layout I've seen that has the rivers designed into the layout rather than added as an after thought. Seeing the layout reveals its operational potential.

Perry's layout has a lot of Listerman's beautiful backgrounds painted to match the layout scenery. He has a very interesting design with several bridges, tunnels and small industries that will be used in operations. He also has a huge staging yard to make up the trains.

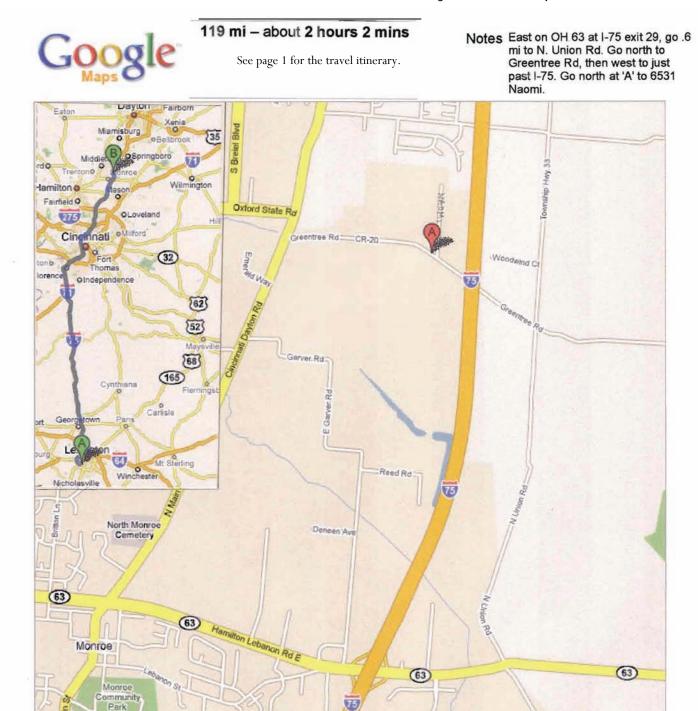
My suggestion is for our members to ask lots of questions about the features as well as any other things that they are curious about. All the Cincinnati area guys are good modelers who love to share with other model railroaders.

......you're going to like what you see, don't miss this opportunity.

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Map for Sat., Sept. 6th trip to Bob Lawson's north of Cincinnati.

Get off I-75 at exit 29. Directions to the other two layouts will be provided at Bob's.



The MCR Division 10 N scale layout is now located at

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The Bluegrass Railroad Museum, Versailles, KY www.bgrm.org 859 873 BGRM

At 2 PM, August 30th & 31st, the museum will be holding their Civil War re-enactment. More information at their website.

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Witless & Clueless: The Continuing Saga of

Larry Loungecar and Rivets O'Reilly

Created by "Railroad" Pete Birdsong

Written by Mike Armstrong

"Railroad" Pete

Rivets: Hey, Larry! What's with your layout?! You've got rolling stock all over the place...every place but on the track!

Larry: Well, Rivets, I was thinkin' bout my dad and for some reason I started runnin' my railroad like I ran Dad's when he wasn't around. I used to really frustrate him by placin' cars all over the place.

Rivets: Why would you do that?

Larry: 'Cause I could never get 'em back on the track if they derailed. I just took 'em off and put 'em beside the track where ever they happened to be. Dad would come down and see cars everywhere and get really upset.

Rivets: I don't blame 'im! I want my railroad to look the same as it did when I left it.

Larry: I do, too, Rivets. Back then, I didn't know any better. Ya know, I really got interested in trains and model railroadin' because o' my ol' man. I even wrote a song ' it.

Rivets: You wrote a song?!

Larry: Well, actually I didn't write it. I just wrote another verse to a song Tommy and Dick Smothers used to sing. Let me git out my railroad guitar and I'll sing it for ya.

Rivets: Larry, what is a "railroad guitar"?

Larry: It is a guitar with two "R"s on it. I put 'em there. Song goes like this, with apologies to Tommy and Dickie:

My ol' man's a model railroader.
What do ya think about that?
He wears a model railroader's rain coat.
He wears a model railroader's hat.
He wears a model railroader's 'spenders.
He wears a model railroader's shoes.
And every Saturday evening,
He reads the Model Railroad News.
And some day, if I can,
I'm gonna be a model railroader,
Just like my ol' man.

Rivets: That's not bad, Larry. You surprise me. But ya got cars all over yer layout! Certainly you didn't have that many derailments in one night!

Larry: Well, Rivets, it actually wasn't one night. It was over several months.

Rivets: So you've been thinkin' 'bout your dad all that time.

Larry: Well, not exactly. They kept derailin', so I took 'em off.

Rivets: Well, there's gotta be a reason for 'em comin' off the track. Let me have a look...Well, for cryin' out loud, Larry! Look how dirty the wheels are! Don't ya ever clean 'em?!

Larry: Uhhhh, not really.

Rivets: So, ya just take 'em off the layout when the quit runnin' right. Won't ya run outta rollin' stock after 'while?

Larry: Heck no, Rivets. I just buy a kit or a ready to run car and put it on the layout. No problem!

Rivets: And meanwhile, ya just clutter ver layout with rollin' stock.

Larry: It reminds me of my dad.

Rivets: You mean you like to remember how much your dad was frustrated by all his cars off the track?!

Larry: Well, it's a really vivid memory!

Rivets: Somehow, Larry, I don't think you are a model railroader "just like yer ol' man." Yer in a class all by yerself!

Read about Mike Armstrong and his G scale layout at www.largescaleonline.com/cgi-bin/whoswho/show.cgi?id=marmstrong

THE LANTERN

NEWSLETTER FOR NMRA DIVISION 10

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NEXT MEETING

SATURDAY, SEPT. 6
ROAD TRIP

Carpool from Turfland Mall @ 8 AM

> FIRST STOP @ BOB LAWSON'S 10:30

BRING & BRAG

RETURNS IN OCTOBER

AROUND THE BEND Before our Oct. meeting, visit http://www.soundtraxx.com/products.htm

MON.	DAY	HOST	PLACE/TIME	EVENT / PROGRAM	TOURS	BRING & BRAG
Sept.	6	Cincinnati area model- ers	Carpool 8 AM @ T.Mall 1st stop—near Exit 29 Ohio I-75	Cincinnati Road Trip	Bob Lawson @ 10:30, John Lister- man @ 12:45, Perry Simpson @ 3	None
Oct.	5	Div 10	Beaumont Library 2 PM Lexington	John Gorman DCC / Sound decoders	Bill Robbins	Show & Tell
Nov.	2	Div 10	Lexington	Bob Frankrone, model RR author Designing - Louisville Southern	Howard Coleman	Model Pho- tography
Dec.	7	Div 10	Lexington	Ray Pershing Scratch Building / Wood	Bill Paulsell	Freight Cars
Jan.	4	Div 10				Off-line Structures

Division Nine has invited us to their meeting at Portsmouth, Ohio, on September 13. The meeting with begin with lunch at noon, followed by a flea market, a business meeting, and clinics on rock mold casting and switch machine installation. You may sell at the flea market. The fee to the division will be 10% of sales. For directions contact Bill Paulsell at wpaulsell@aol.com