



# THE LANTERN



APRIL 2010

VOLUME 12, ISSUE 4

## The Super's Column

By Bill Paulsell



I missed seeing you at the last meeting. We went back to North Carolina to the college where I used to teach to hear our daughter give a couple of lectures. I wasn't sure I would see anyone I knew or that anyone would remember me. However, I saw lots of old friends and we had a great time together.

One of the highlights of the trip was a visit to the hobby shop where I used to hang out. The Antique Barn made a gradual transition from an antique business to a model railroad shop. It is really a huge place. If they didn't have it, it probably doesn't exist. I was involved in founding a club there, the Wilson Area Railroad Modelers (WARM). They have built a layout on the second floor of the shop that claims seven scale miles of track. It is an amazing layout. I had a good long conversation with the owner of the shop who was also the first president of the club. We left that town 29 years ago, but he remembered me. And, of course, as I left my wallet was bit lighter.

I have just sent in my registration for the national NMRA convention in Milwaukee. This will be the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the organization. Milwaukee is the home of Model Railroader magazine as well as the Walther's model railroad distributing company. I am excited about going to the real hotbed of model railroading and will report on the convention when I return.

Our club has a great summer planned: June in Danville, August at Eubank and the Grosser's new O Scale layout, and September in Cincinnati to see Bob Lawson's incredible layout and a huge G-Scale operation.

In April I will do a program on operation. I am still in the process of learning Power Point to put it together, but expect to be ready. Since we will be visiting Larry Smith's new layout in Lawrenceburg, I'll keep it fairly brief. Operation is a fairly new part of the hobby for me, one that I enjoy very much.

In May Randy Coffman will talk about his famous clamps that have been a great help in structure building, and we will visit Fred Plymale's new layout.

The Regional Convention will be May 13-16, and a good number of our members are planning to go. There is still time to sign up if you would like to go. [See bottom of last page]

## March Division 10 Diorama Program

By Fred Plymale

I want to thank each of the seven members who entered a diorama in the program. I hope you all had fun and learned from the process. Every entry was freelanced and all showed a great deal of creativity. If you didn't have an entry in this program please consider building one the next time we have the program. You will develop several different modeling skills that will improve existing layouts or help you when you start detailing your first layout. One of the first things the judges looked for as they judged the diorama was "does it look real?" The judges were Pete Birdsong, Larry Smith and me. A modified AP type form was used to judge each entry with a total of 100 points possible.

It was a very close contest with only an eight point difference between the first place winner and fourth place. Here are the results.

1. Bill Paulsell earned 83 points. Bill had a very large diorama with an interesting road design. He had lots of telephone poles and multiple structures including a very nice scratch built four story warehouse.
2. Pete Birdsong earned 79 points. Pete built an abandoned railroad facility with scratch built turnouts, rails being pulled up, multiple structures, vehicles and people. It looked very scruffy which is exactly the way it was supposed to look. It's difficult to do scruffy well and Pete did it beautifully. .
3. Lou Jaquith earned 78 points. Lou built an excellent propane facility with a beautiful scratch built chain link fence. The hinges on the gate were functional and the propane tank on a delivery truck was also scratch built using a cigar tube. As usual Lou's ballasting of his road bed was flawless. Continued on page 3... photos on pgs 4,5

Thanks to everyone who entered a diorama. I'm told they were great, and hope they inspired you to build one next time. You can have the fun of building one even if you don't have a layout.



# 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!***



## Scale Reproductions Hobby Shop

3073 Breckinridge Lane, Louisville, KY 40220 502 459 5849 [www.srihobbies.com](http://www.srihobbies.com)

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

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

### Division 10 MCR Treasurer Report

Feb. 1, 2010 Balance	\$2826.04
Expenses: Lantern	-64.28
Renewal	-58.00
Contributions	103.00
Feb. 28, 2010 Balance	\$2806.76

## Witless & Clueless

### The Continuing Saga of Larry Loungecar and Rivets O'Reilly

Written by Mike Armstrong

- Rivets: Hey, Larry, whatcha been up to?!
- Larry: Hi Rivets. I have been up to science and model railroading.
- Rivets: Another project?
- Larry: Nope. Just science. I read an editorial in *O Gauge Railroading* the other day. The editor was saying how amused he was that people keep trying to find ways to lessen the sound of the moving trains. Some people say they can't even hear their sound decoders for the noise.
- Rivets: Did they remember to put speakers in the tenders after they installed the decoders?
- Larry: Rivets, one time I do somethin' stupid and you never let me forget it!
- Rivets: One time!?
- Larry: Any way, I have been experimentin' with ways to deaden the sound from the mettles wheels on the track. I have found perfect solution...air!!
- Rivets: Air? Now your not makin' any sense.
- Larry: All right, Rivets, Stay with me here. Most track noise is amplified by some hard connection of the track to the table or bench work. I figure if I can get air between the track and the sub road bed surface, I could significantly lower the noise level.
- Rivets: You're talkin' like a scientist, but you still sound like Larry. So how do you use "air"?
- Larry: Well, the problem isn't solved, but I am still in the experimental stage. For example, I built a small circular table with track and tried putting the bubble wrap with the small bubbles under the track and roadbed. That didn't work because the heavier engines popped the air pockets. It sounded like a popcorn train. I knew that wouldn't work.
- Rivets: I could have told ya that was a bad idea.
- Larry: Yeah, but now I've 'liminated one possibility. Next I tried the bubble wrap with the large air pockets. Goin' around curves, the engines and trains would rock and something would get caught on the plastic. Boy, was that a mess!
- Rivets: Larry, don't you have any *real* ideas?
- Larry: Well, there is this one I got from watching a couple of guys playin' air hockey. I built a wall from styrene, 'bout an inch high, on both sides of the track. It formed a kind o' trough. I drilled a whole bunch of holes in the trough. Then I put tape on the bottom side of the track, and hooked up my air compressor...the big one.
- I thought if I could float the track there would be no noise.
- Rivets: An air compressor, Larry?
- Larry: In theory it ought to work.
- Rivets: I have a theory about your theory. I think...
- Larry: When I applied 250 psi, the track went up like I had planned, and up and up like a rocket.
- Rivets: 250 psi!?
- Larry: Yeah. A little too much pressure, but I was able to catch my 4-6-2 on the way down from the ceiling...a one handed grab, tender and locomotive at the same time.

## 2009 -2010 Bring and Brag

### The current standings are in last month's *Lantern*

#### Dioramas, continued from page 1...

- Stew Winstandley earned 75 points. If we had had a popular vote Stew's entry [photo below] would have been a top contender. It was a beautifully built rural farm scene in Z-scale. It really looked real and the house, orchard, and garden were nicely done. It had a nice road and Z-scale track with a diesel running through the scene. This was a first time effort, and it was an excellent one.
- Bill Robbins earned 51 points. Bill always builds good structures and he had several nice ones on his diorama. He also had an engine on a overpass pulling a passenger car with a detailed interior. Very nicely done.
- Tom Miller earned 30 points. Tom built an interesting multilevel cross over with an engine on each track.
- Don Burris earned 17 points. Don built "Don's Mower Service" using a Bar Mills structure kit.

I'm sure we will offer this program in the future. Perhaps we should consider adding a "popular vote" by all members on the dioramas. The winner might not always be the highest point earner but the one that appeals the most to all members. It would get everyone at the meeting more involved.



- Rivets: Larry, only you could give a new definition to the term "Flying Scotsman".
- So after all of this, what did you learn?
- Larry: I decided that track noise ain't so bad. There are other things I could research that are more practical.
- Rivets: Like what?
- Larry: Well, for example, I'm wanderin' if my hump yard would be more efficient if the track grade in the yard was five per cent.
- Rivets: Larry, I hope you got a lot of spare car parts.



Bill Paulsell's winning HO scale diorama.

Pete Birdsong's second place N scale entry.



Lou Jaquith's HO scale diorama with scratch built chain-link fence.

## REVISED

### NMRA's 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Photography Contest

Win a cab ride in a Union Pacific steam locomotive! The National Model Railroad Association and the Union Pacific Railroad are pleased to announce a model photography contest to help celebrate the 75th anniversary of the NMRA. The NMRA will pick one photograph submitted by an NMRA member in good standing depicting one or more models of UP equipment and/or structures in a realistic scene. The photograph will be judged for prototype fidelity of the modeling and scene as well as for photographic art.

**The member submitting the photograph will win a cab ride in one of the mainline steam locomotives operated by the Union Pacific on the Kansas City to Jefferson City leg of the Missouri River Eagle Excursion.** Airfare (up to \$500.00), two hotel nights, and transportation to and from the excursion will be provided for the winner by the NMRA.

**To be eligible, the photograph must be in an envelope postmarked (or originated in transit by a third-party service such as FedEx or UPS) by August 31, 2010, and received no later than September 7, 2010.** Only one photograph may be submitted per envelope, but there is no limit on the number of photographs a member may submit. Photographic prints, slides, or digital images are acceptable. Prints must be 8" x 10." Digital images must be taken with a camera of 7.1 megapixels or greater to satisfy the printing requirements. All submitted photographs shall become the property of the NMRA, and the NMRA and Union Pacific may use the photograph in any manner they choose. All members participating in the contest agree to provide to the NMRA the original medium of the photograph (negative, transparency, or digital file) if requested.

Please send all photographs to Robert J. Amsler, Jr., 514 Dover Place, St. Louis MO 63111. Be sure to protect photographs from bending or mishandling in the mail.



**Dioramas** from left to right: Bill Robbins' HO entry, Tom Miller's Lackawanna Jct., and Don Burris' Mower Service.

Come to Milwaukee and celebrate 75 years of modeling history in the place where it all began back in 1935, link to <http://www.nmra75.org/>

**THE LANTERN**  
NEWSLETTER FOR NMRA DIVISION 10

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



*NEXT MEETING*

2 PM, SUNDAY, APRIL 11  
WATKINS BLDG., CENTRAL  
CHRISTIAN CHURCH

OPERATIONS

*BRING AND BRAG*

STEAM LOCOMOTIVES

*TOUR*

LARRY K. SMITH

**AROUND THE BEND**

MON.	DAY	HOST	PLACE/TIME	EVENT / PROGRAM	TOURS	BRING & BRAG
Apr.	11	Div. 10	Watkins Bldg. Central Christian Church, East Short St., 2 PM	Bill Paulsell—Operations	Larry Smith, Lawrenceburg	Steam Locomotives
May	2	Div. 10	Central Christian Church, East Short St., 2 PM	Randy Coffman—Clamps	Fred Plymale	Non-revenue cars
May	13-16	Div. 9 MCR	Embassy Suites, Charleston, W.Va.	The Coalfield Express MCR Convention		
June	6	Div. 10	Danville, Ky.	Visit two Danville layouts	John Bowling & Robin Grider	
July	11-18	NMRA	Milwaukee, Wisc.	NMRA 75th Anniversary Convention	www.nmra75.org	

**The Coalfield Express - [http://www.coaldivision.org/coalfield\\_express.html](http://www.coaldivision.org/coalfield_express.html)**

The regional convention will be in Charleston, West Virginia, May 13-16. At least six of our members will be attending. I hope you will consider it, too. It's a great place to learn and to meet other model railroaders. —Bill Paulsell