



The Lantern



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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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July's Event is a Nostalgia Trip

Ray and Renee Grosser have invited the division to visit their Soo Line HO railroad, the "Nostalgia Trip" on July 13.

The Grosser's model railroad was most recently featured in the April 2003 edition of Mainline Modeler magazine. Together the Grosser's have published at least 13 articles in major rail modeling magazines. The Nostalgia Trip has been featured in Model Railroader twice and has appeared numerous times in Railmodel Journal and Mainline

(Continued on page 5)

Message From The Superintendent

I am happy to inform you that we now have written approval from the Federal Government for our 501c3 tax status. This means that any thing donated to the club is tax deductible. Now if we only had some donations.

L&N Days was held in Berea on June 7th. It was a very nice show and is well worth going to see. The highlight of the show is always the N scale layout set up and operated by members of our club. When you enter the building it is right in front of you. It is a beautiful layout and it operated flawlessly all day. There were several other exhibits and vendors selling railroad related items. The only disappointing thing was that CSX would not issue a slow order and the trains zipped by so fast, we could hardly see them.

We had an unique opportunity to promote model railroading this month. My

(Continued on page 5)

NMRA Achievement Program Explained!

Chief Dispatcher Certificate

Would you like to earn an AP certificate good toward your goal of Master Model Railroader just for playing with, I mean prototypically operating, your model railroad? Believe it or not you can with the Chief Dispatcher certificate. To earn this certificate you must "work" several of the operations roles that the real railroads use. These include Engineer, Yardmaster, Hostler, Towerman, and Dispatcher roles. The object is to run a model pike in a prototypical manner with mainline freights, local freights, and passenger trains, etc., all running in a realistic manner with meets and communications between trains and the dispatcher.

The categories, or work roles, are Engineer, Yardmaster, Hostler, Towerman, and Dispatcher. Lets look at each of these categories.

(Continued on page 5)

Contents	
1	Officer Listing July Event Superintendent's Message NMRA AP Explained
2	Company Store Committee Chairs Witless vs. Clueless
3	Support Your Hobby Shops Sustaining Members & Patrons
4	Notes from Fritz Division 10 Company Store Report Div. 10 Model Railroad Data Base
5	Superintendent's Message (cont'd) NMRA Long Range Plan NMRA AP Explained (continued) July Event (continued)
6	Bring n' Brag Report Bring n' Brag 2002 Winners & Schedule
7	Around The Bend Editor's Notes



“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 Pete Birdsong

Rivets: Hey, Larry, you’re lookin’ pretty chipper – what’s up?

Larry: Man, I’m really excited, Rivets!

Rivets: So what’s gotcha so turned on?

Larry: I was readin’ ‘bout the Long Range Plan for the NMRA the other day, and I decided that sounded like a good idea, and maybe I oughta have a long range plan for my layout.

Rivets: That does sound like a good idea, Larry. So what’s in your plan?

Larry: Well, first off, I’m gonna make my layout self-supportin’ like they’re gonna do with the Library and the Museum.

Rivets: That’s sounds good – how ya gonna do that?

Larry: How’d you like to create a small endowment for a worthy cause, Rivets?

Rivets: Uh, what else is in your “plan,” Larry?

Larry: Well, just like HQ, I plan to re-emphasize standards. You know what *that* means, Rivets?

Rivets: Lemme guess – your trains are actually gonna run on your tracks?

Larry: You’re haulin’ an empty tender, Rivets!

Rivets: Sorry, Larry. What else are ya gonna do?

Larry: Well, I’m considering having “sunset” clauses for things, so they’re stopped when they’re no longer effective.

Rivets: Good thought, Larry. Does that mean you’re gonna sell all those kits under your layout that you’ve never built, and probably never will?

Larry: I could make you such a deal, Rivets! But wait’ll you hear about my “Single Membership” policy.

Rivets: What’s that, Larry?

Larry: I’m the only member, so I can do whatever I want.

Rivets: You do that anyway, Larry, but whatcha got in mind?

Larry: For one thing, I wanna go to the extra National Train Show they’re plannin’.

Rivets: Well, that one you can count *me* in on too, Larry!

Larry: Great! Maybe we could go together - I could use the time to tell you about a *lotta* things you need to improve on *your* layout....



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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	Wendell Greer	Robin Grider
Ray & Renee Grosser	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

It's July and it's time to get ready to saddle up and leave town. This month's program will find us in Eubank Kentucky at Ray and Renee Grosser's Soo Line model railroad. Most of you will find the layout's other name "The Nostalgia Trip" very appropriate as the layout successfully recreates the West Central Minnesota area, circa 1954. Ray and Renee's layout has been expanded since last years trip and it continues to be a must see layout. Not only in Kentucky but in the Model Railroad-ing World.

The clinics this month will be of an informal nature. i.e. if one breaks out while you are there you will probably know about it.

I look forward to seeing you all again next month at our annual Danville tour extravaganza. Fall is approaching (hard to believe it is in 90 days) and I am soliciting those of you who would like to display your layouts as part of our post meeting tour program. Let me know so that I can get you on the schedule.

-Fritz

Company Store Report

The winners of the door prize drawings for June were Ron Kercheval and John Lathrop. Congratulations to both!

Thanks to everyone who took the time to fill out a Company Store survey at the June meeting. Now that we know what the Division would like to see we'll be working to add more items to our inventory.

Bill Robbins has contacted George Campbell of Campbell roads about producing our club car. The selected model is a C&O 40' box car from 1937 and 1952-54. Fifty cars have been ordered and will hopefully arrive in time for a train show in November.

-Chris Cord

Division 10 Model Railroad Data Base

Ray & Renee Grosser



A Nostalgia Trip

Name: _____Grosser's Nostalgia Trip
 Scale: _____HO (1:87)
 Size: _____18 x 34 feet (and growing)
 Railroad: _____Minneapolis, Saint Paul & Sault Saint Marie (Soo Line)
 Location: _____Central and Western Minnesota
 Period: _____Early 1950's
 Style: _____Portable Oval
 Height: _____36"
 Benchwork: _____Modified L girder
 Roadbed: _____Homasote on 1/2" plywood subroadbed
 Trackage: _____Railcraft and Shinohara code 70
 Mainline: _____2 with hidden staging
 Turnouts: _____#8 mainline, #6 yard
 Radius: _____48" maximum
 Grade: _____1% maximum
 Scenery: _____Carved foam and Sculptamold
 Control: _____Digitrax DCC
 Comments: _____The Nostalgia Trip was built so that Ray and Renee could share with those viewing the layout the areas of Glenwood and Waite Park, Minnesota. Ray grew up in Glenwood where his father worked as a rear brakeman on the Soo Line. Renee grew up in Waite Park, across the street from the Great Northern's Saint Cloud car shops where her father, uncles and grandfathers worked.



A Nostalgia Trip

Steam Engine #3005 passes Diesel #558 on Ray and Renee Grosser's HO Scale Soo Line Railroad.

Super's Message (Continued from page 1)

team of Howard Coleman, Phil Ditchen, and my granddaughter Sarah were invited by Sayre School to come and talk to their 1st graders through 6th grade about trains. We talked about trains in general, discussed the internal parts of a locomotive and the different kinds of freight cars. We also showed our audience the different scales of model railroading. We built a HO layout and ran a G scale Christmas train. Who knows, maybe some day we will gain some model railroaders.

Your officers and board of directors have decided to have our second train show on November 15th again, at the Knights of Columbus, 1604 Versailles Road. Admission will be \$5.00 or \$4.00 w/coupon, Children under 12 free. Our first show was a success and our next one should be even better. Thanks to all of you who helped with the last show. We look forward to your participation in the second one. We will keep you updated as things progress.

Our club has been contacted by the Bluegrass Museum. They have offered us the usage (no cost to us) of a Southern Baggage car for our modeling activities. The officers and board of directors are exploring the details of this proposal. There is space for a N scale layout and it would be possible to make a HO layout to fit the car. I am asking all members to contact the board or any officer and let us know if you are interested in such a deal. This could be a chance to set up some permanent club layouts. Let us hear from you.

-Bill

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>



NMRA AP Explained (Continued from page 1)

The Engineer can be a freight or passenger train engineer. He runs the engine and does switching along his route as required. Starting and stopping in a prototypical manner.

The Yardmaster operates the switcher in a yard to build and break down trains. A subcategory of Yardmaster is Stationmaster who does the same thing except in a passenger yard, assembling and servicing passenger trains.

The Hostler runs the engine terminal. He assigns what motive power each train gets and runs the engines to and from the yards and engine terminal and services the locomotives.

The Towerman controls the turnouts along the main and sets the route a train will take based on a timetable or Dispatcher orders. The Towerman also notifies the Dispatcher when a train passes his tower or station. A subcategory in the Towerman category is Traffic Manager. The Traffic Manager determines what customers get what cars, when to pick them up, and what route they should take. This may be done by a computer switch list program or car card system.

The last and most important category is the Dispatcher. He is the "air traffic controller" of the railroad. He controls the main lines, who has access to it, how much of it, and when. A train can not move without the Dispatcher's permission.

Depending on the layout size that you are operating, some of these roles will not be used. For example if the layout does not have a large engine facility, a Hostler role may not be needed. However, to qualify you must work fifty hours with at least ten hours in three of the categories (roles), ten of the hours as dispatcher. Obviously you will need a record of the hours you operated and in which categories. This record needs to be "witnessed" by the AP chairman.

Every certificate requires documentation and Chief Dispatcher is no different. Four documents are required. First, a schematic drawing of a model railroad used to get some of your oper-

ating hours, and showing distances between towns. Second, a timetable appropriate for this model railroad, with at least eight scale hours in which three trains move in each direction. Third, draw an operating train chart (graph) which shows the scheduled train meets and position of each train with respect to time. Also, describe the action and movements required for a meet. Examples of a train chart can be found in various books on model railroad operations. Fourth, explain the system used to control car movements, train makeup, and operations in a prototypical manner. For example if you use car cards, describe how the card system works.

Members of the same layout operating group can use copies of the documentation that I previously mentioned for the model railroad schematic and description of the system used to control car movements and train make-up. Each member has to do his own timetable and train chart. Lastly, fill out a Statement of Qualification form and submit it all to me, AP chairman. So you see, you can get one certificate closer to earning you Master Model Railroader, just for playing trains! Oops, I meant prototypically operating a model railroad!

-Dave Green

July's Event (Continued from page 1)

Modeler. In addition to that, it is a part of Allen Keller's "Great Model Railroads" video tape series, volume 31.

Until it's "retirement" in December of 2001 the Nostalgia Trip was frequently shown at area train shows, as well as the NMRA National Conventions and at the Soo Line Historical and Technical Society yearly conventions.

The Nostalgia Trip now has a new home in it's own permanent building on the Grosser farm and an expansion of the railroad is well underway (and it looks REALLY good too).

Whatever you do, don't miss this chance to see one of the finest railroads



Bring n' Brag June, 2003

We had a new Bring n' Brag category for June – "Anything Goes". This could be anything from a playground scene to a complex diorama with an awesome array of modern locomotives. This is what we got!

We had five entries in the modeling division: Fritz Dutro had an interesting towboat and barge (HO scale). Bill Robbins entered a neat looking playground scene (HO). Mike Walter showed up with the aforementioned diorama (N scale) with BNSF power, several structures and freight cars. Pete Birdsong displayed an excellent operating diorama (N) with hand laid Code 55 turnouts; and Pat Gerstle had a beautiful Sn3 caboose with detailed interior. Mike won with his diorama, Pat took second with his super detailed caboose, and Pete came in third with his super track work..

There were three photo entries: Bill Robbins had several photos of some ICG Geeps from the Paducah, KY shops. Fritz Dutro entered a neat model photo of a coal mining scene with modern cars. Randy Coffman had a great prototype photo of a CSX train going through a series of tunnels. Randy's amazing photo won handily, Fritz's shot came in second, and Bill's colorful set of large photos took third.

Again, congratulations to all who entered! Award certificates will be handed out at the next meeting on July 13. The planned category for July was and still is "Favorite Trains", but we are continuing "Anything Goes" next month to encourage more entries. See you in July!

-Ron Kercheval



2003 Bring n' Brag Scores

MODELS			PHOTOS		
High to Low or Tie	June	YTD	High to Low or Tie	June	YTD
Fritz Dutro	2	27	Fritz Dutro (2nd)	4	27
Mike Walter (1st)	5	21	Randy Coffman (1st)	5	15
Bill Robbins (2nd)	2	14	Howard Coleman		6
Howard Coleman		9	Bill Robbins (3rd)	3	6
Pete Birdsong (3rd)	3	5	Pete Birdsong		5
Mike Baskette		4	Mike Baskette		4
Pat Gerstle (2nd)	4	4			
Chris Cord		2			

Bring n' Brag Schedule for 2003

July - Favorite Trains & 'Anything Goes'

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



AROUND THE BEND

MON	DAY	EVENT	PLACE/TIME	PROGRAM	TOUR	CONTEST
JULY	13	MCR DIV 10	Ray & Renee Grosser's Eubank, KY Sunday, 2:00 pm	Ray & Renee Grosser's Nostalgia Trip	Ray & Renee Grosser's Nostalgia Trip Soo Line HO Railroad	Favorite Trains & 'Anything Goes'
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)
SEP	7	MCR DIV 10	Tates Creek Library, Lexington off of Tate's Creek Road Sunday, 2:00 pm	Chris Cord on Operations Dispatching	Charlie & Ruth Hamrin's "G" Scale Outdoor Garden Layout	Diesel Locomotives
NOV	15	Division 10 Annual Fall Train Show	Knights of Columbus 1604 Versailles Road Lexington Kentucky	Watch This Space for More Information		
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

In case you missed elsewhere in this newsletter, Division 10 is planning a Fall train Show! With the success we had last Spring and the great interest if many of the members, we expect an even better show this fall. Please let Bill Robbins know if you will be able to help. We need folks to help set up, run the show, and tear down. We also need volunteers to help with advertising, registration and many other chores that are necessary for this kind of endeavor.

I am extremely disappointed that I will have to miss this month's trip. I have seen the Grosser's railroad several times but, each time I visit I see and learn more. I hope you can attend.

In August we will be visiting 3 layouts in Danville Kentucky. John Bowling's very large HO layout is worth the trip in itself. Robin Grider's sectional layout will be at the Danville Model Railroad clubhouse. This pike is one that is admired by all who see it.

And third is Bob Lawson's HO scale Southern railroad. If you somehow missed it, Bob's layout was featured in the August issue of Model Railroader and his work was on the cover on the July NMRA Journal. Bob's layout will also be the subject of an up and coming Great Model Railroad series video tape. Allen Keller and crew spent 4 days in late June capturing the excitement of Bob's work.

-John

**Next Meeting:
 Home of
 Ray & Renee Grosser
 Eubank, KY
 (map inside)
 Sunday, July 13,
 at 2:00 pm**



**Program &
 Layout Tour:
 Ray & Renee Grosser's
 Nostalgia Trip
 Soo Line HO Railroad**

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



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

***Information on
 Page 5***

(See Inside)
