Superintendent’s Desk

I am busy with the close of summer. There seems there are a million things to do - all important. I am sure you are feeling that way too. However, fall is closing in fast and there are a number of important activities that we as NMRA members can do.

The Gateway Division is in the midst of hosting model railroading clinics for the Missouri Historical Society. We delivered the special layout to the Missouri History Museum. We also started the new (2003) project layout on the exhibit’s opening day, October 5, 2002. This was a great success as many people attended and we in the Division had the opportunity to demonstrate our hobby for new people. We will continue to work with the History Museum throughout the exhibit’s period. Contact Venita Lake if you can help us with this project. This will expose us to many people and can bring new members into our organization.
Finally, on a bitter-sweet note, the Frisco 1522 made its last run on Sunday, September 29, 2002. I rode behind this great locomotive a few years ago and wished I was able to do this time. For those of you who got the privilege, congratulations. I know that I envy you all. To the crew of the 1522, I want to say thanks for all of your hard work in making this part of history come alive. I really appreciate what you have done and I know your work was a labor of love. Know that we will all miss the 1522. We will visit her at the Museum and recall the great memories you and she gave us.

Division Holiday Party
Jim Anderson and Dave Lyon have agreed to co-chair this year’s Gateway Division Christmas party.
- The date is Monday 11/18/02 starting at 7pm
- The place is Trinity Lutheran Church, site of our Missouri monthly meetings
- The party is for our members and their spouses
- Attendees are asked to bring an appetizer or dessert of their choice enough for 4-6 people, the Division will furnish soft drinks and coffee.
- Prizes, mementos, and entertainment will be furnished
- Jim and Dave would appreciate hearing from you if you are attending so that they can plan accordingly.
- andersjd@swbell.net (Jim) and jdlyon@swbell.net (Dave).
- Don Gathright will be giving a slide show of midwest traction (Illinois Terminal, South Shore, Illinois Central commuter service, among others).

Help yourself to coffee and donuts (for as long as they last), look over what’s being offered at the swap tables, check to see if you’ve won a door prize, take your pride-and-joy model to the contest room, and settle down in one of the clinic rooms and learn something new.
- The first clinics will begin at 9:30am; Glenn Koproske will show us how to use the new RealRoad material to model asphalt and concrete roads, sidewalks, and parking lots, while Kevin Hampton gives us a rundown on the revisions and redesign he has made to his CSX empire.
- At 11:00am Dave Roeder will give a clinic on ballasting and detailing track and Brad Joseph will show recent slides of UP, BNSF, and Montana Rail Link action in the basin-and-range landscape of Utah and western Wyoming.
- After lunch on your own, get back in time to see Jim Ables’ 1:30pm demonstration of the new Trainz computer simulator or for Dave Roeder’s second clinic, this one on making trees and related scenery.
- After the last clinics are done we’ll present awards to the model contest winners, then head home to rest up for the next day’s layout tours. Maps and directions for Sunday’s tours, which run from 1:00pm to 4:00pm, will have been distributed on Saturday.
- Bring your models for our popular-vote contest in all the usual categories; Achievement Program merit judging will be available. Popular voting will also be held on model and prototype photos and slides. Entries are accepted in the following categories:
  - Model Contests
    - Steam Locomotives
    - Old Diesels
    - New Diesels
    - Freight Cars
    - Passenger Cars
    - Cabooses
    - Maintenance Equip’t
  - On-line Structures
    - Off-line Structures
  - On-line Diorama
    - Off-line Diorama
    - Whole Train
  - Photo Contests
    - B&W Prototype Print
    - Color Prototype Print
    - Prototype Slide
    - B&W Model Print
    - Color Model Print
    - Model Slide
- Swap table space is available to members in good standing on a first-come-first-served basis; call Mike Thomas at 314-664-0680 or 314-771-0680 to reserve a table.
Walthers Cornerstone
"Team Track"

Assembly tips and techniques for Walthers HO kit #933-3166
by James D. McDonald
photos by Richard Schumacher

Parts Preparation
Testor’s Micro Shear Sprue Cutter was used for removing larger parts from the plastic sprue trees. Micromark’s Despruing Tweezer was used for small parts.

All parts are sanded with sanding sticks and/or needle files to remove burrs remaining after removal from the sprue and to remove ejection pin marks.

Gluing
Testor’s Cement for Plastic Models (the thick type) was used by placing a blob on a piece of cardboard (old business cards work well for this) and applied to the model with a toothpick.

Some parts were attached with CA adhesive - also applied with a toothpick.

Ambroid Pro-Weld was used to assemble the walls of the small building and the walls of the hoist house.

Paint
I used an Aztek double action internal mix airbrush for this job.

I used primarily ModelFlex paints when airbrushing. They are pre-thinned for airbrush use, and the bottles screw directly onto my airbrush siphon feeds.

30 to 35 psi works well for this paint.

For some airbrushing Floquil was used because I didn’t have any ModellFlex in the correct colors. A 75% paint 25% disol mixture was used to airbrush with the Floquil.

Testor’s Dullcote was used as a sealer for weathering. The airbrush type was used (not the aerosol can type) thinned with a 50% mixture of lacquer thinner.

15 to 20 psi works well for this mixture.

Floquil was used for brush painting. I find that this type works much better than acrylic paints (such as ModelFlex) for brushing.

Everything was painted with a coat of ModelFlex Grimy Black as a primer with the exception of the fences which I painted ModelFlex Primer Gray (to get a lighter topcoat).

Decals
Microset and Microsol are my favorite decal applying solutions. I use a small scissor for decal cutting, a cross-locking tweezers to hold decals and a small brush for microset/microsol application and for decal positioning. I use room temperature water in a kidney bowl (acquired from a hospital visit) to soak the decal. I usually submerse the decal in water (holding it with the tweezers) for 20 seconds.

The decal was then placed on a paper towel.

Apply microset to the model where the decal will go. I pick up the decal with the tweezer and position it.

Weathering
An earth tone set of colored chalks was used for weathering. The chalk was applied by sanding some of the chalk off directly onto the model. An inexpensive brush is used to blend in the colors. Blacks and browns are used to simulate dirt, oranges and reds for rust, and light yellows for dust.

A colored pencil set was used to simulate drips (rust and liquid residue) by drawing lines directly on the model and rubbing with a finger to achieve the desired result.

After weathering, the chalk was sealed with an application of Testor’s Dullcote.

Assembly

Virtually everything was assembled before painting. The exceptions were: the hoist house (which sits on top of the crane), the hoist house’s roof, the roof of the small building and the windows of the small building.

Crane

Crane assembly required quite a bit of sanding to make parts fit properly. Even after sanding, some seams still needed Squadron Green plastic putty.

I assembled the hoist house without its roof and didn’t attach it to the main model. There were several reasons for this:

First the house needed to be strung with thread which is used to simulate the cabling for the hook -- I didn’t want the thread airbrushed with paint! So waiting to attach the roof later would allow the hoist house to be painted before the thread was strung. It also let me paint the roof separately without masking.

I didn’t attach the house (sans roof) to the crane because I was unsure where the crane’s hook should be placed on the actual layout.

I hand painted the concrete footings with Floquil Concrete and the metal attachment plates with Testor’s Steel.
Loaders

The loaders assembled easily. The only difficult part being to use a pin vise to enlarge the holes for the wheels so that they could be glued on. After priming with grimy black paint, I masked the area where the conveyors are with regular masking tape. I cut narrow strips with a small scissors and applied. I used two strips for each conveyor so that the "true" side (the side not cut with the scissors) was towards the outside of the conveyor. I burnished the edges with a small screwdriver and trimmed any excess with a new #11 Xacto blade. I repainted the entire assembly a maroon red, waited for it to dry and removed the masking.

I handpainted the wheels Floquil Roof Brown, and the wheel rims Testor's Steel.

decal with the tweezer and used a brush dipped in Microsol to slide the decal onto the model. I aligned by using the brush. After the decal was where I wanted it, I used Microsol to set the decal in place. This worked well for everything except the graffiti decals. In retrospect I should have painted the entire fence with a gloss coat then, applied the decals, then Dullcote. The graffiti doesn't look natural. It looks like a decal, mainly because it didn't adhere well to the dull finish.

I applied weathering (with chalks) and then tried creating a little of my own graffiti with a white pencil. This actually looks the best to me! It is what I will be doing in the future to simulate graffiti. I then sealed everything with Dullcote.

Concrete Ramp

I assembled the ramp walls with Ambroid Pro-Weld and the bottom with Testor's Plastic Cement. I filled gaps with Squadron Green Putty. After priming, I painted the entire ramp ModelFlex Concrete. After this dried I masked off the ramp and side walls with masking tape, leaving the ramp side rails exposed. I repainted these ModelFlex Grimy black. I weathered the center sections of the ramp a brown color (chalk) and the sides a rust color. More sealing with Dullcote.

Wood Ramp and Dock

I assembled the ramp and dock to the support piers without using the bases for these. I thought that the appearance on the layout would be enhanced without the bases. I did use the base to ensure that the piers where aligned (without gluing to it) until the glue was dry.

After priming I airbrushed the top of the ramp and dock Floquil Roof Brown without masking. Any overspray would appear as dirt on the piers after weathering.

I used black chalk rubbed with a finger in the center of the ramp and dock to make it appear well used. I also applied a little yellow for "dustiness."

After sealing with Dullcote, I decided that the concrete footings should be, well, concrete color! So I hand painted these with Floquil Concrete.

Telephone Pole

I assembled all the telephone pole parts before painting. In retrospect I should have waited before attaching the conduit from the electrical transformer to the electrical box mounted on the pole. It made painting afterwards difficult. I drilled a small hole in the bottom of the transformer with a pin vise to make gluing it in place easier.

After priming, I painted the telephone pole assembly Floquil Roof Brown. I hand painted many details on the pole. I used Testor's gloss green for the glass insulators, Floquil Primer Gray for the electrical transformer, conduit and electrical box, Floquil Engine Black for the transformer insulators and Floquil Rust for the bolts.

I weathered with black chalks and sealed with Dullcote.

Building

I assembled the walls and the base of the building with Ambroid Pro-Weld. I left off the windows, roof, tank, vent stack and power meter.

I primed the building wall/base assembly and the roof. I then painted the building ModelFlex Reefer White.

Fences

The fences required a considerable amount of sanding. The vertical posts had a lot of ejection pin marks. After sanding, I used a HO scale ruler to determine where to place the vertical posts since there were no location marks. I spaced them evenly making a mark with a 0.5mm mechanical pencil at the locations where I wanted the posts, then glued them in place.

I primed these parts with a ModelFlex light gray color (to make the top coat lighter). I painted these with a light coat of Floquil Roof Brown (since I was out of ModelFlex).

I applied decals to the fences by first dipping the decals in cool water for 20 seconds holding the decal with a cross sprung tweezer, placing them on a paper towel and then applying a coat of Microsol to the model where I wanted them to go. I picked up the decal with the tweezer and used a brush dipped in Microsol to slide the decal onto the model. I aligned by using the brush. After the decal was where I wanted it, I used Microsol to set the decal in place.

This worked well for everything except the graffiti decals. In retrospect I should have painted the entire fence with a gloss coat then, applied the decals, then Dullcote. The graffiti doesn't look natural. It looks like a decal, mainly because it didn't adhere well to the dull finish.

I applied weathering (with chalks) and then tried creating a little of my own graffiti with a white pencil. This actually looks the best to me! It is what I will be doing in the future to simulate graffiti. I then sealed everything with Dullcote.

Concrete Ramp

I assembled the ramp walls with Ambroid Pro-Weld and the bottom with Testor's Plastic Cement. I filled gaps with Squadron Green Putty. After priming, I painted the entire ramp ModelFlex Concrete. After this dried I masked off the ramp and side walls with masking tape, leaving the ramp side rails exposed. I repainted these ModelFlex Grimy black.

I weathered the center sections of the ramp a brown color (chalk) and the sides a rust color. More sealing with Dullcote.

Wood Ramp and Dock

I assembled the ramp and dock to the support piers without using the bases for these. I thought that the appearance on the layout would be enhanced without the bases. I did use the base to ensure that the piers where aligned (without gluing to it) until the glue was dry.
The base of the building was hand painted Floquil Concrete. I hand painted the vent stack Testor's Steel, the power meter Floquil Primer Gray, and the Tank Floquil Engine Black with Floquil Roof Brown legs. I painted the windows and door while still on the sprue. I used ModelFlex paint -- a Dark Maroon color. I carefully removed these from the sprue and scraped paint off two (non-visible) sides for attachment to the building. I glued these in place with Testor's Plastic Cement. I glued the window “glass” in place with Testor’s Clear Parts Cement. I used the smallest amount of glue possible for this (a micro drop in each corner of the window). Then the roof was glued in place. One decal was added to the building. The electric power meter and the tank were attached to the building back -- I attached these with a small drop of CA adhesive.

I then weathered the building with black and brown chalks and the roof with a light yellow chalk. The building was then sealed with Dullcote.

James assembled this kit for the History Museum St. Louis Central layout. Color photos of this kit and the layout may be viewed on our website, www.gatewaynmra.org, or you may view James’ work in person at the Museum.

$10.95 (HO Scale Xpress Kit #798 Company House). Lined up in a row behind the mill or coal company, or as a mountainside cabin, this is a great easy-to-build little house. You must register and pay in advance with the Missouri History Museum. Call the Museum at (314) 361-9017. You will be sent a confirmation letter after you register. The session will be in the Schnucks Classroom at the Museum.

**Upcoming History Museum Events**

Gateway Division activities in conjunction with the “Our World in Miniature” exhibit. If you would like to volunteer to assist at any of these events, please contact Venita Lake (venita@gatewaynmra.org).

**Saturday, November 9**

10:30am to 12:30pm
“Make and take” HO box car kit (fee $10, advance registration required, ages 10 and up)
Build a simple plastic HO scale boxcar and learn how to turn it for smooth and dependable running under the guidance of members of the Gateway Division NMRA. (Bring a small flat bladed screwdriver if you have one.) Boxcars provided by Accurail and Model Die Casting.
You must register and pay in advance with the Missouri History Museum. Call the Museum at (314) 361-9017. You will be sent a confirmation letter after you register. The session will be in the Schnucks Classroom at the Museum.

**Sunday, November 10, 2-4pm**
Modeling demonstration in the exhibit area by Division members (TBA)

**Saturday, November 16,**
10:30am to 12:30 pm
“Make and take” HO scale structure kit (fee $10, pre-registration required, ages 10 and up)
Build a small HO scale building under the guidance of members of the Gateway Division NMRA. Learn basic air brushing techniques and tips on wood and plastic structures.
St. Louis company American Model Builders will provide their 100% laser-cut wood kit of the Company House with peel & stick windows and doors and laser-cut rolled roofing which will be painted and assembled during this session. The building is 2.75” wide x 2.5” deep x 2” high. Its list price is $10.95 (HO Scale Xpress Kit #798 Company House). Lined up in a row behind the mill or coal company, or as a mountainside cabin, this is a great easy-to-build little house. You must register and pay in advance with the Missouri History Museum. Call the Museum at (314) 361-9017. You will be sent a confirmation letter after you register. The session will be in the Schnucks Classroom at the Museum.

**Sunday, November 24, 2-4pm**

**Sunday, December 15, 2-4pm**

Painting Model Figures and setting the scene, by Rich Laux

**Sunday, December 8, 1-4pm**
in the Museum's Grand Hall
Building a 4'x6' model railroad by Richard Schumacher
Adding scenery and scenic details to the layout which was started on the exhibit’s opening day, October 5. and
“Make and take” scale model trees by Division Members
Tree materials provided by Woodland Scenics and Accurail

**Sunday, December 15, 2-4pm**
Modeling demonstration in the exhibit area by Division members (TBA)
View the color photos of these scenes and many more, along with detailed photos of each of the 26 structures on this model railroad layout (some with construction tips and articles), at our website, www.gatewaynmra.org

St. Louis Central Structures

A Walthers Cornerstone “Hardwood Furniture” 933-3044 modeled by Hank Krichely
B Heljan “Brewery Malt House” 322-807 modeled by Randy Meyer
C Walthers Cornerstone “Geo. Roberts Printing” 933-3046 modeled by Paul Fries
D Design Preservation Models (DPM) “HO Scale Modular Learning Kit” 243-360 modeled by Rich Laux
E Walthers Cornerstone “Lakeside Shipping” 933-3084, warehouse section of kit, modeled by Brad Joseph
F Walthers Cornerstone “ADM Grain Elevator” 933-3022 modeled by Venita Lake
G Walthers Cornerstone “White Tower Restaurant” 933-3030 modeled by Rick Lake
H Walthers Cornerstone “Lakeside Shipping” 933-3084, office section of kit modeled by Brad Joseph
I American Model Builders (AMB) “Interlocking Tower” 152-702 modeled by Don Ayres
J Walthers Cornerstone Built-ups “Speeder Shed & Speeder” 933-2811
K Atlas "Trackside Shanty" 150-702 modeled by Rich Laux
L Design Preservation Models (DPM) "Freight Depot" 243-107 modeled by Robert Amsler
M Walthers Cornerstone "Transformer" 933-3126, modeled by Venita Lake
N Walthers Cornerstone "Team Track" 933-3166 modeled by James McDonald
O Design Preservation Models (DPM) "B. Moore Catalog Showroom" 243-104 modeled by Rich Laux
P Walthers Cornerstone Built-ups "Crossing Shanty and Gates" 933-2812
Q Walthers Cornerstone "Concrete Streets" 933-3138, three kits modeled, Walthers Cornerstone "Brick Streets" 933-3139
R City Classics "East Ohio Street" 195-106, two kits were combined side-by-side, modeled by Bill Beilstein
Division Minutes
Recorded by Dave Bartz, Clerk

Gateway Division Meeting Minutes for June 17, 2002

In lieu of a clinic presentation for the evening a “swap meet” was offered for our members after the business portion of the meeting had been concluded. There were many tables of unusual and interesting items offered for sale, with some sellers using “carnival side show Barker’s” antics to attract attention to their wares. Fun was had by all and bargains were had by some.

Superintendent Bob Amsler opened the business meeting at 7:05 pm.

Visitors: There were no visitors at this meeting.

Minutes: Richard Schumacher moved to accept the minutes of the May 20, 2002 meeting as presented and Rich Lake gave the second. Approved.

Treasurer’s Report: Rick Lake moved to accept the treasurer’s report of June 16, 2002, which had a positive balance of $41,154.67. Richard Schumacher gave the second. Approved.

Old Business

2001 Convention Merchandise: Ken Thompson reported that any unsold “T” shirts remaining after tonight would be donated to a local charity, and that the only remaining items from the convention are various model RR cars. Ken will take these RR cars to the 2002 National Convention in Florida.

Membership Data: Venita Lake reported that she is still collecting information to update the membership information.

Dues: Ken Thompson announced that he would be available to collect unpaid dues during the meeting tonight.

Clinics: Mike Thomas announced that the July meeting will include a visit to the St. Charles Model Railroad Club. Information and maps will be made available.

Donations: Ken Thompson reported that we have received a letter of thanks from the Big Bend Railroad Club for our donation of $1,000.00 toward the repair of the roof of their station (club meeting facility).

New Business

Bob Amsler asked that our members volunteer to work 2 shifts each day at the Transportation Celebration August 3rd and 4th 2002 at the museum of Transport. The shifts are as follows:

Saturday: 7:30 am to 1:00 pm and 1:00 pm until 5:00 pm

Region: John Hardy announced that the North Platte Convention was very successful with good clinics and interesting tours.

Ken Thompson reported that per our approved motion to our regional Mid-Continent Director, Jim Anderson, the Region has passed a motion to donate $15,000.00 as a “grant” to be used for special income generating projects. The details of the grant are similar to the Gateway Division’s grant.

John Hardy announced that 4 longtime members were honored with recognition for 25 years of membership in the NMRA. The members are Morris Berk, Albert Culbertson, Gerald Affeldt and A.J. Althoff.

Project Layouts: Bob Amsler again asked for a volunteer to chair the History Museum Layout.

Venita Lake reported that progress is being made on the project. Rich Laux has volunteered to allow the layout to be constructed in his basement. Dave Bartz and Rich Laux have volunteered to build the framework, many items have been purchased and received for the structures and most of those buildings have volunteers to complete them. This layout should be completed by October.

Bob Amsler asked for a volunteer to chair the annual Gateway Project Railroad. This layout should have enough completed construction to be shown at the October 20, 2002, Family Days at the Museum of Transport.

The RPO Newsletter of the Gateway Division NMRA Fall 2002 13

| Walthers Cornerstone “REA Freight House” 933-3095 modeled by Mike Thomas |
| City Classics “Smallman Street Warehouse” 195-103 with City Classics “Two-Story Add-on Kit” 195-104 modeled by John Leahy |
| Bachmann Spectrum “Ambassador Hotel” 160-88002 modeled by Glenn Koproske |
| Smalltown USA “Helen’s Country Kitchen” 699-6012 modeled by Richard Schumacher |
| Design Preservation Models (DPM) “Front Street” 243-120 modeled by Richard Schumacher |
| Kibri “Factory Building” 405-9788 modeled by Don Taschner |
| Micro Engineering “HO Thru Girder Bridge 50’ Single Track” 255-75520 modeled by Dave Lotz |
| Micro Engineering “HO City Viaduct 150’ Single Track” 255-75511 modeled by Russ Watts |
| Unpainted “Passers-by and Spectators” Preiser Figures 433-1322 modeled by Rich Laux |
| Bar Mills “Purina Mills” Billboard 171-93102 modeled by Glenn Koproske |
Butterworth at the Museum of Transport for giving permission to undertake this project, and to Don, Jeff and Ted for the many hours of effort in very hot weather to get her done on time! Others involved in the project were George Rust and Bob Mitchell at DuPont; Scott Blair at the BNSF Havelock Shops; Ron Hirsch at the BNSF West Burlington Shops; Dave Dote at the Illinois Railway Museum; Gary Stengle at EMD; AnyKinda Signs; Stiern Laser; Lasermasters; Jamie Lee at Kenalloy Foundry and Kevin Schelen and Mike Spoor of the Burlington Route Historical Society.

Additional photos are on the news page of the gatewaynmra.org website.

Rob Monroe

Rob Monroe, Gateway Division Member and Southern Illinois Director from Mount Vernon, died on Saturday, July 13, after a long battle with cancer. Memorials may be sent to the American Cancer Society.

Gateway Division Clinicians Wanted

We still need clinicians for upcoming meetings. If you know something other people don’t then you’re qualified to conduct a clinic. And if you don’t think you can fill an hour, we can pair you up with another short clinic for the evening. We especially need more hands-on how-to modeling workshops and more in-depth prototype clinics. Call Mike Thomas at 314-664-0680 or 314-771-0680.

Calendar of Events

October 21
Gateway Division Meeting, 7pm
VFW Hall, O’Fallon, IL
Clinic: Dave Roeder will conduct a slide show tour of his Webster Groves & Fenton Railroad, a mid-1980s bridge line set in St. Louis and featuring lots of highly detailed urban and industrial scenes.

November 2
Gateway Division Annual Meet
Trinity Lutheran, West County, MO
Event: Bring your model and photo contest entries, enjoy clinics, talk trains with other modelers. See page 4 of this issue for more info.

November 18
Gateway Division Party, 7pm
Trinity Lutheran, West County, MO
Event: Our Holiday Potluck! Mark your calendars now; see more information on page 3 of this issue.

December 16
Gateway Division Meeting, 7pm
VFW Hall, O’Fallon, IL

January 20, 2003
Gateway Division Meeting, 7pm
Trinity Lutheran, West County, MO

Now thru February
Missouri Historical Society Clinics and Events
Forest Park, St. Louis City, MO
Division members are presenting a number of clinics, demonstrations and seminars in conjunction with the Museum’s exhibit, “Our World in Miniature.” Check out the complete schedule on page 9 of this issue.

Maps and directions to the above locations are on the Gateway Division website, www.gatewaynmra.org