Coaling tower by Don Taschner, MMR
See inside for more photos of model contest winners
Joint Gateway / NRHS Picnic 3
Layout Design Meet in Tulsa 4
Fall Meet Model Contest Winners 5
Redboard Salutes Dee Joseph 8
Building the BC&G Railbus 10
Achievement Program 13
Dave Roeder’s WG&F 14
Kalmbach Library Photo Scanning 16
Director’s Report 17
Meeting Minutes 20

Superintendent’s Desk
by Hank Kraichely

Well we are now at the beginning for a new year and it looks like it will be a good one. Recently the officers met to develop a plan for the coming year the details follow.

The monthly clinics will include: MMRs sharing various building techniques in Jan and Feb. In March Brian Post will show how to program DCC decoders to take advantage of their capabilities; Rich Lake will discuss operations; in May members will receive their AMB structure; June we will visit the K-10 layout; we will have a swap meet in July; Learn to paint backdrops in August; in September we will see the member’s handy-work and award prizes to the winners; October will feature making castings and custom decals; November will see our annual Holiday party and finally in December we will have our first Bring and Brag (bring your model and describe how you constructed it. (The schedule is tentative beyond the 2nd quarter.) 2011 will again see a number of fun outside activities including a layout tour in late March, the annual picnic, two weekend operations sessions plus some type of prototype tour.

I think you will agree with me that 2011 will be an exciting year so why not decide right now to attend some or all the Division meetings and take part in one or more of the outside activities. Many people are working to make Gateway Division one of the best.

— Hank

Annual Joint Picnic
by Ron Gawedzinski

On Saturday, September 25, 2010, the Gateway Division NMRA and the St. Louis Chapter NRHS held the 3rd get-together picnic of two fine train groups at the Wabash, Frisco, and Pacific Railroad, Glencoe, Missouri. The WF&P RR runs 12-inch gauge small-scale steam and diesel trains alongside the Meramec River. It provides a two mile roundtrip ride.

The weather was great, the steam and diesel locomotive rides were many, the food, drinks and snow cones were plentiful and the scenery along the Meramec River was beautiful. Some new train friends were made. But most of all people had fun.

This year there were in attendance 105 registered members, families and guests from both groups, along with an additional 17 crew members from the WF&P RR.

The WF&P RR provided several steam and diesel locomotives. There were train rides all day. The WF&P crew were very gracious hosts and they enjoyed having us there as much as we enjoyed their facilities.

This year there were 30 volunteer workers who were exemplary in performing the many tasks at hand: Mary and Bill Birdsell, Phil, Kathryn, and Matthew Bonzón, Don Bowling, Ron Gawedzinski, Phil Hellwege, Hank Kraichely, Ron Kraus, Noah Lee, Dave Lyon, Bill Miksicek, Jean Myers, David Newell, Joe Obernuefemann, Jan and Bill Schaberg, Rich Schumacher, Andy Sisk, Neva and Rick Sprung, Lynne and John Stoecker, John Stork, Brenda and Tim Stout, Eileen and Al Weber, and Dick Wegner. (If I left your name off please let me know so that I can correct my error. — Ron)

Special thanks go to Bud Anderson and Alex Ford for providing free snow cones to the people at the picnic. Many fine compliments were made about the cool, refreshing and tasty snow cones that were provided. Each year Bud and Al have brought their equipment, the ice and the many tasty flavors as well as donating their time to the event.

Many members of both groups donated a large number of attendance prizes this year, so just about everyone got a chance to win something.

The Officers of the Gateway Division NMRA and the St. Louis Chapter NRHS thank the members, families and guests for their attendance, their help and their donations that made this picnic a great success. Ron especially wants to thank the above named volunteers, for without them this event could not have been held.

Finally, many thanks to the WF&P crew for making this a success.

Layout Design and Operations in Tulsa

by Dave Salamon

The Indian Nations Division of the NMRA located in Tulsa, OK is pleased to announce that we will be hosting our 2nd Layout Design and Operations Weekend, March 18-20, 2011. We have 4 presenters lined up with 6 presentations to be given; Tony Koester is going to give two presentations. Doug Gurin will also give two presentations, and Riley Triggs and Keith Robertson are each going to give one. Everyone will be able to attend all six presentations. Updated information on the presenters and presentations will be added to the web page (see below).

The cost is only $25.00. You can also pre-purchase your lunch, this year we will do a build your own sandwich bar with all the fixings for a mere $8.00. This will give you an opportunity to talk with the presenters, other participants and old friends while having lunch and not have to get in your car and spend time driving around. We will be doing shirts again, this year we will be doing a polo type shirt, we still haven’t decided on the color of shirt, but as soon as we get that nailed down we will add that info to the web page. The logo will be in multiple colors this year too, depends on the final shirt color on the colors that will be used. The shirts are $25.00, and for 2XL and larger are $27.00. All these can be done using PayPal on line from the web page or print off a registration form and mail it in.

If you’d like to operate there is that option. You can send you a preference sheet to operate (this doesn’t cost, its part of the meet) when you register. To engage more individuals in operation this year we will not have a dedicated open house night, even though if you aren’t interested in operating you can still visit the layouts when they are operating if you’d like. There will be three different sessions (Friday night, Saturday night and Sunday morning) and there will be multiple layouts available for each session. Assignment will be done first come and first serve; preference sheets will be emailed later to you after you register.

If you like designing track plans or would like to design a track plan we are hosting a track plan challenge. This isn’t a contest; there are no individual winners, as everyone wins on this as we can see how different people would approach the same area and what they would do. These ideas might be of use to your own layout or something to consider in designing and building a layout in the future. On the web site there is a PDF document with some “givens and druthers” and also footprint and elevation drawings with obstacles in the room and everything you need to know about it. I hope that several of you will give this a try. The layout design challenge entries will be compiled and the author of each one will be given a little time to make a short presentation on their design. If we were to get more entries than time allows for reviewing all of them (This would be a great thing to have!) the committee will go through and select a handful to be presented to everyone. All others will be presented in paper form with a write up about it so that everyone that enters something will have it posted for all to review. After the meet all entries will be compiled and submitted to the Layout Design Journal for possible publication. After each presentation for the layout design challenge the Panel (comprised of the presenters) will provide comments and feedback on the designs.

We will end the meet portion with an open discussion with the panel of presenters with a question and answer session. This was really great last year and we are allowing a little more time for that this year.

Link to the web page: http://ldopsigmeet.tulsanmra.org/

I hope you all can attend the meet as the committee has been doing a lot of work to put together a fantastic program for everyone. It will be a great weekend.

Fall Meet Model Contest Winners

Gateway Division NMRA 2010 Annual Model and Photo Contest

NMRA conventions and train show events feature a model and photo contest where entries are displayed to be viewed and enjoyed by other model railroaders and the general public. Any NMRA member may enter models and photos into these contests. The 2010 train show was the first to feature both NMRA (merit) judging and popular vote contests. They are displayed as two sections below.

The following are the contest winners from the 2010 Gateway Division annual model and photo contest.

Merit Judging:

Steam Locomotive, First Place (Score 114) & Best of Show (tie)
Phil Bonzon, MMR

Freight Car, First Place (Score 114) & Best of Show (tie)
Gregor Moe
Non-Freight Cars, First Place (Score 106)
George Spriggs
(also Maintenance-of-Way First Place in popular vote)

Structures, First Place (Score 96)
Gregor Moe
(also Offline Structures First Place in popular vote)

Popular Vote:
Steam Locomotive, First Place
Phil Bonzon, MMR

Diesel Locomotive, First Place
Dave Roeder, MMR

Freight Car, First Place
Dave Roeder, MMR

Caboose, First Place
Steve Hemmel
Passenger Car, First Place
Dave Roeder, MMR

See cover photo of Online Structures, First Place coaling tower by
Don Taschner, MMR

Whole Train, First Place
Dave Roeder, MMR

Full size, full color versions of these photos, along with photos of the second and third place model contest winners and the photo contest winners, are posted on the Gateway Division website.

Dee Joseph Tribute
photos by Richard Schumacher

Paul Fries' HO scale model railroad is displayed in the front window of his hobby shop, Red Board Hobbies (2331C Collinsville Rd., Belleville, IL 62221, 618-233-3818). The layout features fall scenery and a small town theme. In early 2010 Paul modified the town square area adding a tribute to Dee Joseph, a well-known and respected local modeler and businessman who is no longer with us.
Building the BC & G Railbus

by Phil Bonzon, MMR

The Railbus was a 1921-built Mack Model AC Railbus that the BC&G acquired in 1941 to provide passenger and mail service between Dundon and Widen, WV, just 18.6 miles away. Twice a day it made the round trip between these two towns in the late 50’s with Kenneth Brady as the engineer.

Originally built with a 64 hp 4-cylinder engine, the BC&G replaced the Mack motor with a “more modern” Chevrolet engine and opened up the front of the hood, for additional cooling.

CONSTRUCTION: Styrene sheet is the principle material used in the model construction. Brass was used for some chassis members, body moldings, pilot, fenders, handrails and horn.

The chassis was made from brass channel shapes that are soldered together and then bonded to the .100-styrene floor with CA adhesive.

The hood was carved from a solid block of styrene to the required shape. The louvers were made from .030-styrene quarter round shapes bonded to the hood with plastic solvent adhesive. The hood hinges are .010-styrene.

The body was made from three layers of styrene. The inner layer, which has the individual window sash cut into it, is .010-styrene; the middle layer, which has the paired windows and doors cut into it, is .030-styrene; and the overlays, which includes the embossed rivets, is .010-styrene. The horizontal and vertical window muntins are scale 1” x 2” styrene strips. All of the styrene was bonded together with plastic solvent adhesive. The molding above and below the windows was made from .020-brass rod bonded to the body with CA adhesive. The rivets were hand embossed using a NMSL rivet tool.

The roof was made from a layer of .090-styrene bonded to an interior layer of .030-styrene. Lead weights were adhered to the underside of the roof to increase the weight for better electrical pickup. The canvas covering was simulated by applying a single layer of facial tissue to the roof that is coated with ‘Grimy Black’ enamel and then given an overcoat of the same enamel. The roof is removable to allow access to the interior and is retained by a screw from the underside of the chassis. The front fenders were made from .015-brass sheet cut and formed to shape and then bonded to the body with CA adhesive. The pilot was made from brass angles with holes drilled to locate the brass rods; the assembly was soldered together; the projecting ends filed off and pilot was bonded to the body with CA adhesive.

The handrails, grab irons and door handles were formed from .010-brass wire and applied to the body with CA adhesive.

Glazing was made from “overhead projector” film and bonded to the body, after painting and weathering, with CA adhesive.

Front and rear headlights were made from aluminum tubes with 14-volt light bulbs wired to the decoder to provide directional lighting. The nonfunctioning headlights were made from styrene rod and brass wire.

The front steps were made from styrene while the rear was made from brass wire.

The grille was made from .010-brass wire soldered together.

The motor/gear unit is a NWSL “Flea III” assembly, supplied by custom order, with 36” nine spoke wheels. It’s built into a styrene subassembly that includes the brakes, simulated
leaf springs and supports, brass sand pipes, simulated drive staff and continuation of the brass chassis channels in styrene. The motor was hard-wired for DCC. The sub assembly fastens into the body assembly with two brass screws. A LokSound’s decoder and sound system was hard-wired into the model to replicate the sounds of the Railbus.

The front truck was made to resemble the BC&G prototype from styrene sections that were bonded together with plastic solvent adhesive. The three major components, truck sides and cross member, were fastened together using brass pins and CA adhesive. The 26” NWSL wheels provide electrical power pickup through .008-phosphorus bronze ‘wiper’ wires to the decoder. Simulated brake shoes and journal boxes were made from styrene.

Interior: An interior was made for the passenger compartment from styrene with a raised floor, to clear the decoder and speaker located below. Lead sheet was bonded to the underside of the raised floor for additional weight. Because of the raised floor, the bench seats had to be abbreviated, as did the five passenger figures, plus the engineer and a coal stove. In the baggage compartment, wood crates made from scale lumber, cover the motor. Exterior: There are many details included on the exterior; the brass horn, the roof ventilators and the brass radiator cap, the headlights on the pilot (all turned using a Dremel tool and a file as a lathe); the grille; the battery box located on the left front fender; the square gas tanks with their filler spouts; the underbody storage shelves; the smoke stack; and all the details at the rear axle, i.e., springs, brakes and sanding pipes, just like the BC&G prototype.

FINISH: The model is finished in Floquil’s enamels in colors corresponding to the BC&G prototype for the period. Custom-made decals were applied and the model was given a light weathering using Floquil’s ‘mud’ and ‘dust’ and a light wash of India ink.

SCRATCHBUILT: The model is entirely scratchbuilt except for the following allowable items: motor/gear unit, wheels, light bulbs, DCC decoder, and sound system.

Gregor & Bonnie Moe Earn AP Certificates

At our January meeting Don Taschner, MMR, and Dave Roeder, MMR gave presentations on how they went about qualifying for some of the AP certificates they’ve earned and encouraged the membership to join them in the program. Appropriately enough, Don, who is Gateway Division Achievement Program co-chair, then presented AP merit award certificates to both Bonnie and Gregor Moe in the Cars category, and also presented Gregor with his Achievement Certificate for Model Railroad Engineer – Electrical. Congratulations to both!
When an editor needs to fill a couple of blank pages before sending the RPO to the printer, it’s hard to beat Dave Roeder’s modeling. His double-deck HO layout keeps a crew of seven to nine busy during monthly operating sessions. The WG&F is a fictitious industrial shortline with Burlington Northern connections serving industries in Valley Park and nearby areas of Saint Louis County.
I. General Comments:
The Gateway Division continues to meet monthly on a rotating basis between the VFW Hall in O’Fallon, IL, and Trinity Church in Chesterfield, MO. The average monthly attendance continues at 20 to 40 plus. The Missouri meetings have the better attendance, but we have seen a slightly improved attendance at Miami meetings held in O’Fallon, IL. Meeting announcements are communicated by postcard to members who are current with their annual $5 subscription fees or via e-mail to members who prefer this method of communication. Meeting information is also posted on the Gateway Division website, which is www.gatewaynmra.org. Meeting and website updates are available through our RSS feed at http://feeds.gatewaynmra.org/GatewayNMRA.

II. Division Monthly Meetings/Clinics:

July through December 2010:
July (MO): Second clinic on prototypical operations with Gene Coffman presenting the use of the “Rail Operating Program” and John Schindler presenting a summary on operations.
August (IL): “Custom building turnouts” presented by Larry Wodell
September (MO): “Members who received a Merit Judged award for the Company House building kit at the May meeting brought their completed models for a “show and tell” presentation”
October (IL): “Adjusting DCC Decoder CVs to Speed Match Engines” was to be presented by Brian Post.
November (MO): AMB kits will be distributed to members to be constructed for judging in September and a presentation will be made on how to build the model for merit award.
December (IL): Using the Gateway Division’s switching layout, a timed “Switching Contest” was held. Two person teams were given a switch list and eight minutes to complete operations. Gift Certificates for a local hobby shop were given as prizes. First Place Team, Bill Linson and Jimmy Alles, Second Place Team, Tim Stout & Larry Wodell, Third Place Team, Hank Kraichely & Don Ayres. Phil Bonzon MMR set-up the contest so was excluded from competing.

III. Planned Division Meetings/Clinics:
January through June 2011:
January (MO) and February (IL) 2011 clinics will be “Modeling with the Masters” presented by four MMRs, Don Taschner MMR #403, Dave Roeder MMR #373, Randy Meyer MMR #390 and Phil Bonzon MMR #427.
March, 2011 (MO) clinic will be “Adjusting DCC Decoder CVs to Speed Match Engines” to be presented by Brian Post.
April, 2011 (IL) clinic will be on Operations presented by Rich Lake.
May 2011 (MO) AMB kits will be distributed to members to be constructed for judging in September and a presentation will be made on how to build the model for merit award.

IV. 2011 Fall Meet and Model Contest: November 13 at Trinity Church:
The annual meet was very successful. We had 49 tables, which is an increase from 41 tables in 2009 and they were sold out. Paid attendance was down slightly at 308 from 335 in 2009, but total revenue of $2,501 was within $10 of 2009’s revenue.

For the Model Contest, this year we added a Merit Judged category and a Display category to the Popular Vote used previously. The change was made to increase the number of awards available and hopefully the number of entries and AP participation. There were 21 entries in the Merit Judged category, of which 16 models scored Merit for 2010, whereas it was 7 for 2009, so AP participation increased, which was encouraging, but the total number of entries was 71 for 2010, whereas it was 81 for 2009, which was a little disappointing. This might have been cause by the late decision and announcement to change the contest award rules, so it did not have the intended effect for entries, we will have to see at the 2011 Fall Meet.

John Carty, Rich and Venita Lake, Randy Meyer MMR and Co-AP Chairman, Don Taschner MMR and Phil Bonzon MMR provided merit Judging. Six clinics were presented with Dave Roeder giving three, Rich Lake giving one, John Carty giving one and Jack Stroker giving one. Also,
Gateway membership recruiting booth and the HS Scale Small Switching Model membership in the NMRA and it has been well received with a lot of membership applications taken, especially the Rail Pass and 31 new members involved in manning the booth and promoting NMRA membership. In 2011 the switching layout will again be displayed at train shows. Some train shows even pay us to display with and without others is free. e. Membership recruiting posters have been placed in nine local hobby shops. f. After two months of clinics on prototypical operations, a weekend of prototypical operations, “Gateway Rail Op Weekend”, was held September 17 & 18, 2010 with three operating sessions and six layouts available. The “Rail Op” was advertised on the Gateway website, as well as an NMRA registration. You had to be an NMRA member to participate and thirty-six surveys taken after “Rail Op” was 100% in favor of having it at least twice a year. Also, a very favorable article, written by Jim Duncan, was advertised on the Gateway website, as was its registration. You had to be an NMRA member to participate and thirty-six surveys taken after “Rail Op” was 100% in favor of having it at least twice a year. Also, a very favorable article, written by Jim Duncan (OPSIG Regional Area Coordinator) was in the January 2011 issue of “The Dispatcher’s Office” the OPSIG publication. For 2011 we are planning a Spring and a Fall “Rail Op Weekend.” The Rail Op weekend was organized and chaired by Phil Bonzon MMR, OPSIG member. VII. RPO: Mike Thomas continues to do an excellent job as the Editor of the Division quarterly publication entitled the “RPO.” A B&W printed copy is sent to those members paying their $5/year mailing subscription fee and is available to all, in color, through the Gateway website. Mike is always looking for articles to publish so any OPSIG member who might be interested please contact Mike.

VIII. The Gateway Division website: (www.gatewnmra.org) managed by Richard Schumacher, continues to be very busy, providing information to members and prospective members. Web Analytics Report for the GatewayNMRA.org web site for the month of December 2010 is different from the previous reports. A number of changes were made to reflect issues of privacy and permission. It has been determined that the number of visitors to a site is significantly greater than the number of unique users. The biggest change is that the number of visitors (a lower number than previous reports) now reflects only actual human visitors that looked at web pages. This provides a more accurate number than most web reports (who like to include inflated statistics).

The more interesting number is pageviews, which is our monthly highest ever (even though this is also a number which has been adjusted down to reflect actual visitors). The pageview number is also slightly underreported and we will not include visitors who had JavaScript disabled in their browsers. There are currently 253 active web pages on the gatewaynmra.org site. General Web Metrics: 24,997 visits (note that this number has been adjusted down to reflect only actual human visitors) 110,105 pageviews (note that this number reflects only pageviews in the .html file, it does not include pdfs or image-only views) 980 pdf downloads (this only downloads through a link on the gatewaynmra.org website) 3,678,769 hits 37.5 GB bandwidth About 4.40 pages viewed per visit.

Web Traffic: All traffic sources sent 24,997 visits via 416 sources and mediums Referrals, 12.92% direct, 0.17% other Referring sites sent 5,230 visits via 400 sources Search sent 16,494 total visits via 8,354 keywords and 11 sources 1. Google 12,531 2. Yahoo 1,861 3. Bing 1,317 4. Search 443 5. AOL 333 6. Ask 208 0.14% visits used site search (the “search” button on the pages) Top Site Content (by Title) 253 page titles were viewed a total of 110,105 times 1. Gateway HO Scale Model Railroad Layouts with Track Plans | Gateway Central Train Layout 17,051 2. Gateway Division Trains and Model Railroads | Gateway Division NMRA (Home page) 4,523 3. 4x8 HO Scale Model Railroad Layout Display at the Missouri Historical Society 3,637 4. Directory of Greater St. Louis Area Model Railroading and Train Layouts | Gateway NMRA 3,478 5. Scale Model Railroad Download Page | Signs, Interiors and Backgrounds | Gateway NMRA 3,056


The RPO — Newsletter of the Gateway Division NMRA

Volume 18, No. 4 — Winter 2011
**Division Minutes**

*by Don Ayers*

**Gateway Division Meeting**

**September 20, 2010**

**CLINIC – Contest judging of members’ building the American Model Builders “Company House” structure kit as given out free to those who attended the May meeting. Kits were generously donated by American Model Builders President John Hitzenman, who did the judging. John gave a little history on how he came up with the idea for the house, which AMB has sold over 12,000 kits over the years. Basis for the contest was to build, decorate and detail the exterior of the structure. Thirteen members submitted finished kits. First prize went to Phil Bonzon, second prize to Dick Wegner and third prize went to Gregor Moe. Congratulations to the winners but, more importantly, congratulations to the 13 members who participated in the contest. A job well done!

**BUSINESS MEETING –** The Superintendent called the business meeting to order at 8:00 PM. There were 32 members present, including new member Dave Bufka, and visiting member Marita Taschner; along with guests Vicki Siering and John Hitzenman. Dave is an HO scale modeler. An item of note, Don and Doris Taschner are celebrating their 60-year wedding anniversary.

**Minutes of the August Meeting:** Minutes were APPROVED with one correction. Approved minutes are published in our quarterly publication, the RPO.

**Treasurer’s Report:** Dave reported there was nothing unusual this month. Most of the money that came in was from the sale of wheel sets. Under Expenditures, Miscellaneous, $300.00 was for purchasing gift certificates to be used as prizes. There were no questions. Report APPROVED. Hank did ask Gary Gross to set up a meeting with Dave to perform the annual audit of Treasurer activities.

**Merchandise Report:** Tim reported he still has the 33-inch wheel sets left. The trucks are still on backorder. A request was made for 36-inch wheel sets, which we don’t have. Hank said the minimum order is 100 packages to receive the discount price. Tim said we also have N scale standard gauges as well as On3 gauges.

**RPO Report:** Mike Thomas said what’s due to him is Hank’s column, a ballot with the names of officer candidates for the upcoming election and a flier for the Fall Meet. Deadline is October 1st. Mike said he should be able to work on the program for the Fall Meet itself. He has a gauntlet professor of the membership directory for those at the meeting to check spelling of names, correct addresses, telephone numbers and email addresses. Also, check if there are any deceased members listed. Hank strongly recommended everyone at the meeting look at the gauntlet proof. Ron Gavenda mentioned he is processing the names of members signed up for the upcoming picnic there were some errors in telephone numbers, etc. and that he would get those changes to Mike.

**Directors Report:** Phil reported Richard Napper, Mid-Continental Region Membership Dispatcher, has resigned. There is no replacement yet for him in that position.

**Achievement Prove it to yourself:** Hank mentioned we now have two co-chairman for this contest, Don Taschner and Phil Bonzon. Don awarded Gene Coffman the Golden Spike Award. The members in attendance gave Gene a round of applause. Don also said Phil and Rich Lake visited Gregor Moe’s home layout and judged scenery and civil areas.

**Old Business**

Tabletop Display – Don Ayers was not present as he was out of town on a work assignment. Hank reported that the new display Don created and constructed was shown at the recent Narrow Gauge Convention. Hank said Don did an outstanding job. The display will be shown at the November OpSig train show at the Kirkwood Community Center on Saturday, October 9, 10 AM – 5 PM, and Sunday, October 10, 11 AM – 4 PM. Phil said we need volunteers to man the booth. He passed around a sign up sheet.

**X. Deaths:** Fortunately the Gateway Division has not had any members die in the past year.

Finally, the members of Gateway Division would like to acknowledge the fine work and support by Don Taschner, whom we lost in June of this year as the Gateway Assistant Superintendent. Also, I wish to thank the OP Co-Chairmen for their help in preparation of this report.

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The RPO — Newsletter of the Gateway Division NMRA

Volume 18, No. 4 — Winter 2011

20
Meeting Minutes for October 18, 2010

CLINIC – Ron summarized the annual picnic and thanked everyone involved.

There was more discussion about contests in general: Tim talked about how Don Taschner encouraged him to begin entering contests.

Respectfully Submitted,
Ron Gawedzinski, Acting Clerk

October 18, 2010

CLINIC – Ron stated that he was planning to photograph all the models for the RPO. Please put your name on a piece of paper with your model. Bill Birdsell said the Barriger National Railroad Library – Hank mentioned he received an email from Greg Ames, the librarian, that 2,000 books are sold today and Wednesday, 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM. Hank has asked Don Head to send a mass email notice to all members with the specific instructions. Next Month’s Clinic – Tim mentioned next month’s clinic will be by Brian Post on DCC, a hands-on clinic demonstrating speed matching different locomotives. Brian will bring his locomotives.

Announcements

Tim reminded members about the Fall Meet on Saturday, November 13th. We’re looking for clinicians. Bill Birdsell said the Metro East Model RR Club, Glen Carbon, Illinois, is having an open house on Saturday, October 17th, 5:00 PM to 8:30 PM, and Saturday, October 20th, 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM. Hank said we’re looking for a candidate for Vice President (Asst. Super.), in 2011, Tim’s job. See Hank if you are interested.

Rich Velten said the Kirkwood Railroad Association is having an open house on Saturday, December 11th, from 12 noon to 4:00 PM. The Superintendant called the business meeting to order at 7:00 PM. There were 17 members present, including 2 new members, Ali Shahriary and Joseph Kamm. Ali is an N scaler, and is working on his layout in an 11 x 14 room. Joe is improving his space for a future layout.

Minutes of the September Meeting:

There were no comments on the September minutes. A motion was made by Phil to approve the Minutes; seconded by John Carty. PASSED.

BUSINESS MEETING – The Superintendent called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. There were 17 members present, including 2 new members, Ali Shahriary and Joseph Kamm. Ali is an N scaler, and is working on his layout in an 11 x 14 room. Joe is improving his space for a future layout.

Minutes of the September Meeting:

There were no comments on the September minutes. A motion was made by Phil to approve the Minutes; seconded by John Carty. PASSED.

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No Report.

Directors Report: Phil is still trying to get National and Regional to update their monthly member reports more accurately. Phil is also trying to get National to send us the Division portion of each member’s annual dues. No progress.

Activity Report: Phil summarized the recent operations sessions in members homes and thanked everyone for participation – especially the hosts!!! Members have requested that this be a recurring event. He’s thinking twice a year could work.

Ron summarized the annual picnic and thanked everyone involved.

There was more discussion on contests in general: Tim talked about how Don Taschner encouraged him to begin entering contests.

Respectfully Submitted,
Ron Gawedzinski, Acting Clerk

Meeting Minutes for December 20, 2010

CLINIC – Tonight, we had a friendly competition to see who could complete a switching challenge on our HO scale switching layout that we use at shows. The challenge was to spot five boxcars at the correct industry in 8 minutes or less. Along with the fun, there were some incentives along the way (in the frenzy to get done fast!), and even one death of a fisherman on the ground was reported as a boxcar fell off of the stone viaduct. But, in the end, the team of Jimmy Abilities and Bill Linson emerged as winners with all cars spotted correctly and a time of 7.35, and no reportable injuries. These gentlemen receive Mark Twain Hobbies gift cards for their effort.

BUSINESS MEETING – The Superintendent called the business meeting to order at 7:00 PM. There were 19 members present, and one guest: Rob Kutz.

Minutes of the October Meeting:

Meeting Minutes for December 20, 2010

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Minutes of the October Meeting:

Meeting Minutes for December 20, 2010

CLINIC – Tonight, we had a friendly competition to see who could complete a switching challenge on our HO scale switching layout that we use at shows. The challenge was to spot five boxcars at the correct industry in 8 minutes or less. Along with the fun, there were some incentives along the way (in the frenzy to get done fast!), and even one death of a fisherman on the ground was reported as a boxcar fell off of the stone viaduct. But, in the end, the team of Jimmy Abilities and Bill Linson emerged as winners with all cars spotted correctly and a time of 7.35, and no reportable injuries. These gentlemen receive Mark Twain Hobbies gift cards for their effort.

BUSINESS MEETING – The Superintendent called the business meeting to order at 7:00 PM. There were 19 members present, and one guest: Rob Kutz.

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Treasurers Report: Dave summarized his report. The revenue from the Fall Meet showed up this month, so we plussed up! Dave fielded a few questions. The report was then APPROVED as read.

Merchandise Report: Tim reported that there are 4 sets of trucks are left, and 47 packs of the 33” wheelsets available. He also continues to push the standards gauges – especially N scale. He said we may order 36” wheelsets next time.

RPO Report: Mike Thomas was not present.

No Report.

Directors Report: Phil mentioned that he will be attending the Board of Directors meeting on 22 January, in Shawnee, Kansas. Also, we have added a few new members.

Activity Report: Ron was not present. No Report.

Achievement Program (AP) Report: Phil is still waiting for the certificates to be delivered for Gregor Moe. Don Taschner has the Merit Awards earned at the Fall Meet.

Monthly Meeting Clinician Report: January and February will feature 2 Master Model Railroaders each month to teach us aspects of the hobby. We will also look for Brian Post to come back and do his speed matching clinic. Hank asked the group for other ideas for clinics that they would like to see next year.

Old Business
The annual Officers Planning Meeting was held in January. The following few items remain open:
Recruitment – No report this month. OPEN.
Logo Shirts – Don showed the members present the new proposed logo. There was lots of discussion about this logo, and a few new ideas floated. The vendor that created the logo put a silver(gray?) border around National’s logo. Ultimately, membership voted for this logo, but wanted to give National the final say-so on the variation. A shirt was also agreed to from the catalog. The vendor will provide a red, short sleeve, polo shirt with one pocket and the new GD embroidered logo for $32. Embroidering a name on the shirt will be $5 extra. OPEN.

New Business
Hank announced the results of the officer elections for 2011, as tallied by Mike Thomas. Hank, Dave, and Don will continue in their current roles in 2011, while Bill Linson will become our new Assistant Superintendent. Tim agreed to continue to handle the merchandise. Don made a motion to destroy the ballots for the 2011 officer elections. Ken Thompson SECONDED. Motion PASSED.

Announcements
Phil is looking for volunteers to man the NMRA table at The Great Train Expo, St. Charles Convention Center, St. Charles, Missouri, on 29 and 30 January. As usual, we need at least 2 volunteers for each of the 4 shifts.

The treasury was likewise enriched by $13. Phil won the Mark Twain Hobbies gift card.

Adjournment – Rich Lake made a motion to adjourn the business meeting at 7:56 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Don Ayres, Gateway Division Clerk

Division Officers
Superintendent
Hank Kraichely

Assistant Superintendent
Bill Linson

Clerk (Secretary)
Don Ayres

Paymaster (Treasurer)
Dave Lyon

Division Director
Phil Bonzon, MMR