On The Cover

photo by John Carty
Late last October, a Burlington Santa Fe freight passes the former building of Beck & Corbitt located one First St. near Laclede’s Landing in St. Louis.

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Superintendent’s Desk

by Hank Kraichley

I would like to take this opportunity to thank each person who worked to make the Regional Convention a tremendous success. We have received several compliments on the convention and the member’s smiling faces spoke volumes. If you were unable to help out plan to help at the annual picnic or the fall meet, you will be surprised at how much fun you will have.

Now shifting gears I would like you to consider running for Division office this fall. The current officers have been in office for 3-4 years. In addition all the officers were involved in the convention and are tired. These jobs are not hard and do not require special talents. The
officers are willing to explain each job function and provide as much support as is required.

Don’t forget to work on your DPM structure there is still plenty of time to bash the kits and other parts (given to you) into a real gem! There will be two categories again the year, the first is for past winners and the second is who those have not won in the past. First place in each will be $50.00 and seconds are $25.00.

Have a great summer and don’t forget we meet through the summer.

Hank

Under the Wire
by John Carty, Editor

Hundred-degree temperatures reinforce the fact that summer has arrived. I missed the Regional convention due to family commitments. Thank you, Don Ayres, for covering for me at the contest. Great job, sir!

With the completion of the kids’ baseball and softball seasons, I retreat to the air-conditioned comfort of home to work with said children on modeling projects. Three of my children are building structures for my layout under my guidance and in the process learning a great deal about not only modeling, but also the real world. At the same time, I am preparing my own projects for the Fall Meet in November.

For those taking part in the DPM Structure Contest, please enter your creation in the contest at the Fall Meet. I will also need judges at this contest, so please contact me if you are interested.

One final plea regards this publication: the RPO belongs to every member of the division, please share your projects, photos, tips, and thoughts with the rest of the division. This is YOUR venue to share your efforts with the world and to get your name in print. Please take advantage of this opportunity.

I really do not want to monopolize the contents of this publication. I much prefer to find out what others in the division are doing. Since I have a large family with children involved in a variety of activities demanding my attention, magazines and newsletters allow me to fraternize with fellow model railroaders. Since this is a relatively small magazine, your chances of being published are excellent, especially since I prefer to get articles in print as soon as possible. If you do not know what kind of articles are needed and you have an idea, follow through on it and write the article, take the pictures, and send it to me. If you wondered about it, so has someone else.

Until the next issue, keep going full throttle.

John

Tricks for Tracks

Share your love of the hobby with your children and grandchildren by helping them build rolling stock, structures, and scenery. You can also have them paint and weather models. Also, play railroad games and watch real trains together.

Submitted by John Carty
Pictures of Operating Night on the Pseudo-Soo

Photos & Text by Bob Johnson

Ryan Moats, Weyerhauser Yardmaster checking car numbers as the Minneapolis Express rolls into town.

Ryan Moats, unknown, David Jobe, and Missy Jobe trying to arrange a meet at Weyerhauser between the east bound Soo Express in the distance and the west bound Minneapolis Express under Ryan's arm.
Brad Slone seems to be having fun working the C&NW turn with its nine industries and three interchange tracks. It took how long?!!

"Missy" Jobe, Assistant Yardmaster at Weyerhauser kept the yard switcher flying. Brad Slone waits patiently in the background while the yard puts his Minneapolis Express together.
Steve Aucoust (not absolutely sure of the spelling) took a break from the Dispatcher's Desk to solve the puzzle called the Pickle Packer at Cameron.

Building a Line Truck

by John Carty

I model the East St. Louis & Suburban Railway companies as they would have appeared had they survived into the 1950's. As a result street cars, interurban cars, and steeple cabs dominate my roster of motive power. Another aspect that makes interurban systems stand apart from steam roads stems from the types of maintenance of way equipment in use. The most notable piece of maintenance equipment peculiar to interurbans is the line car, which allows men to work on the overhead wires used by most interurban systems to provide power to the cars.

Photo courtesy of Mark Godwin.
While researching the Great East Side Electric Railway System, I came upon a photograph of a line truck used in the early part of this century. Given the propensity of small operations to keep using equipment until it falls apart, I knew I needed such a vehicle on my layout.

At first glance I thought they had used a Ford Model T or Model A to construct the line truck. A second look showed that this was not the case. After a closer examination of the photograph, I concluded that maintenance department chose a Packard on which to create their line truck. The closer examination also revealed the truck had been repaired, since the front end sported a Federal radiator and a new front beam, probably the result of repairs after an accident. The truck also boasted a homemade windshield.

I started with a Highway Miniatures 1922 Packard Stake Truck (kit #231). I assembled the frame and oil platform and then replaced the radiator by cutting a piece of Evergreen clapboard siding to 3/8" by ¼" and framing it on all four sides with 0.010x0.060 strip styrene and on the top with piece of 0.040" square styrene. I filed slopes onto the top of the radiator to match the photograph. Next I assembled the radiator, hood, cowl, and floor together onto the frame assembly after removing the headlight bosses from the cowl. After that, I added the seat, transmission, frame ends, axles, link and link support, and the drive shaft, omitting the wheels at this time. When I added the front frame end, I cut a small piece of the stub from one of the gates on the parts sprue and added it in the middle of the front frame end.

I widened the running boards so that they reached the outside edge of the fenders with strip styrene. I modified the largest of the brackets to match the smaller straight brackets and attached two of these brackets to the ends of each running board. I then affixed the running boards and fenders to the frame after removing the mount for the large tool box. I added pieces of strip styrene to the fenders to match the photograph. I added the control panel, gear shift, steering wheel, and cowl supports next, followed by the steering rod, brake rods, and muffler. Next I added a pair of pieces of styrene tubing to the passenger side of the frame to simulate the winches in the picture. I also assembled the tool boxes and set them aside to add after painting and weathering.

To the roof I added a frame of 0.010x0.060 styrene and shaped and evened the pieces. I assembled the cargo box less the stakes and tailgate. I cut four pieces of 0.040" square styrene 15/16" long and 20 pieces of 0.020x0.040 styrene 13/16" long. I installed two of the square strips inside the bottom of the cargo box.
the bed and then added five of the rectangular strips onto them with the tops 1/8" above the one below. I then added five strips to each side at the same positions and then added the other two square strips, followed by the remaining five strips. I braced this cage on each side with 0.020x.040 strip in an “X”, and an inverted “V” on the front and back of the cage.

For the service platform I cut a piece of car siding 13/16" wide by 1 5/8" long with boards running the length of the piece. I added strips of 0.020x0.040 styrene under the sides and on top of the ends. Additionally, I cut six posts from 0.020x0.040 styrene and attached them to the sides and then added railings at the top and middle of the posts. I cut four posts from 0.040" square styrene and attached them to the underside of the platform located inside where the posts of the cage ladder set. I also added a small piece of 0.040" square styrene to the front of the platform and drilled it and the button on the front of the frame to accept cranks cut and bent from 0.010” wire.

I fabricated a windshield frame from styrene and attached it to the cowl. I then added the roof to the top of the frame. Lastly I attached the bed to the back of the truck frame and the back of meet the bottom of the platform. I then attached the platform to the cage. After this I added a ladder from a Central Valley the cab roof after attaching the seat cushion to the tower. I sprayed the whole vehicle flat black. Next I painted the tire gray and mounted them and the hubcaps. I then added headlights and a spot light to the cab using pieces left over from building buses. All I need now is to weather the truck and add tools, tool boxes, ropes, wires, and poles and park my line truck on the
Phil Bonzon Steam Cleans at the National Contest

Edited by John Carty

The 2012 NMRA National Convention / Train Show in Grand Rapids, Michigan has concluded. Bob Amsler, NMRA Legal Consul, NMRA National Train Show Manager and NMRA Gateway Division member, kindly entered three of my steam engines for me in the Convention’s Model Contest. Bob stopped by this evening to return my three models and three Awards. I wish that I could have attended the Convention in Grand Rapids, but I was there in spirit, my models represented me and they did a good job. All three engines were entered in the “Scratchbuilt Steam Locomotive category”, although two were bashed, with the following results:

First place in ScratchBuilt Steam Locomotive with 109 points.
Lord Baltimore

Second place in ScratchBuilt Steam Locomotive with 108 points.

Photos by Phil Bonzon

Third place in ScratchBuilt Steam Locomotive with 103 points.
Timetable of Events
Boeing Model Railroad Club train show,
Sat, Sep 8, 10 – 3, you know where . . .
34th Annual Monticello Railway
Museum Railroad days, Sep 15 – 16,
Monticello, IL
22nd annual Greater St Louis Metro
Area Train Show, sponsored by MVNS,
Oct 13-14, 111 S. Geyer Rd, Kirkwood
Gateway Division Fall Meet, Nov 3,
Trinity Lutheran Church.

Division Minutes
by Don Ayres, Clerk

Meeting Minutes for
January 16, 2012

Hank Kraichely, Superintendent,
hkraichely@sbcglobal.net
Bill Linson, Assistant Superintendent
Phil Bonzon, MMR, MCoR Director
Don Ayres, Clerk, ayresd1@charter.net
Dave Lyon, Paymaster
Ron Gawedzinski, Activity Coordinator

CLINIC – Steve Brawley presented a clinic on
how to make a low cost static grass applicator.
This applicator works the same as
commercially available applicators costing 10
times as much. It uses static electricity to
make commercially available grass ground
cover stand on end for a more realistic
appearance. He had a completed applicator
available which was passed around, all the
parts required which he passed around, and
also built one on premises. Steve donated the
one he built tonight to our raffle held at the end
of the business meeting, and provided a
printed set of instructions for everyone to take
home. Thanks, Steve!

BUSINESS MEETING –
The Superintendent called the business
meeting to order at 8:12 PM. There were 31
members and 8 guests present. Kevin

Casarez is just beginning to rediscover the
hobby after pulling his dad’s HO equipment out
of the attic. Mark Bauer is working on modules
for his grandsons. There were also several
lady visitors from a local doll house club invited
by tonight’s clinician.

Minutes of the Previous Month’s Meeting

The minutes of the December meeting were
APPROVED without comment. Approved
minutes are published in our quarterly
publication, the RPO.

Paymasters Report

Dave had some activity to talk about this
month. Income for the upcoming MCoR
Convention is starting to come in, both in table
rentals and registrations. The $225
expenditure is a “rent” donation to the O’Fallon
VFW hall. We pay for rental of both meeting
spaces, and match what we pay to Trinity
Lutheran Church. APPROVED as read.

Merchandise Report

Tim said that we are out of wheel sets until the
next order arrives. Hank asked Tim to get
some HO scale gauges from National to have
on hand. Tim asked if there was any last
minute requests for items to be purchased
from Intermountain.

RPO Report

John Carty was not present. No Report.

Directors Report

Phil announced the last Kibitzer magazine to
be printed is being printed now. This quarterly
publication will be distributed by download, and
is promised to be bigger and better than
before. The Division in Tulsa has expressed
an interest in hosting the 2013 Regional
convention. Kansas City is also being
considered.

Achievement Program (AP) Report

No report.

Monthly Meeting Clinician Report

Bill outlined the entire year of clinics as
discussed by the officers in the planning
meeting. Notes from that meeting were available to members.

**Old Business**

2012 MCoR Convention – OPEN

MoT Display – Bob Amsler again outlined the project that is being considered to build a static display for the Museum of Transport representing Civil War era City Point, VA. Bob asked for a vote to approve funds for the project. After much discussion, the Division did vote – each member expressing his own opinion whether the Division should support this project, or not. Twenty six hands were raised to say that the Division should support this project. Hank asked that hands be raised again to volunteer to donate labor. Again, over 20 hands went up. Dave Roeder and Bob have another meeting with MoT, and then detailed planning will begin. Dave said several times that he expects the project could cost $5000 or more. Bob did admit that construction likely would not begin in earnest until after the Regional Convention. A final vote to commit to this project will occur after a detailed estimate is presented. OPEN

Officer Elections – John Hardy announced that 32 ballots were received and 30 of the ballots showed reelection of current officers. Don Ayres made a MOTION to destroy the ballots. SECONDED by Dick Wenger. PASSED. CLOSED.

**New Business**

Hank announced that Phil has resigned as membership chair, and asked for a volunteer. Jimmy Ables will take this on.

Cathy DeWitt volunteered to bring the snacks to the west side meetings in place of Rich Laux who passed away recently.

Hank opened discussion on mailing fees. Right now, members pay $5 a year to have meeting reminders and the 4 annual issues of the RPO mailed to them. The cost of production and mailing of these items is more than $5 per member per year. After some discussion, Hank said that he would get a handle on exact costs and bring this information back to a future meeting. OPEN

**Announcements**

Shirts continue to be for sale.
The contest kit for this year will be City Cab from DPM.

John Hardy is looking for additional members for the round robin group he is in.

50/50 – Fifty-nine dollars was collected, and John Hardy won the drawing and took home $30. The treasury was enriched by $29. Bob Latta won the Mark Twain Hobbies’ gift card. A third drawing for the static grass applicator that Steve Brawley built in tonight’s clinic. Jimmy Ables won it. Thanks for the donation, Steve.

Adjournment Hank asked for a MOTION to adjourn the business meeting 9:14 PM. Bill Linson made the motion. It was SECONDED, and PASSED by all.

Respectfully Submitted,
Don Ayres, Gateway Division Clerk

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**Meeting Minutes for February 20, 2012**

Hank Kraichely, Superintendent, hkraichely@sbcglobal.net
Bill Linson, Assistant Superintendent
Phil Bonzon, MMR, MCoR Director
Don Ayres, Clerk, ayresd1@charter.net
Dave Lyon, Paymaster
Ron Gawedzinski, Activity Coordinator

**CLINIC** – Dave Roeder, one of our Master Model Railroaders, and Pete Smith, another MMR, put on a clinic demonstrating techniques for manufacturing several different styles of model trees. Both had samples, from raw materials to finished product, available to see. Thanks, guys!

**BUSINESS MEETING** –
The Superintendent called the business meeting to order at 7:53 PM. There were 22 members and 2 guests present. Kevin Melcher is just starting his HO scale layout. John Golden is returning to the St Louis area and is an HO scale modeler.
Minutes of the Previous Month’s Meeting
The minutes of the January meeting were APPROVED following confirmation that we did not approve funds last month for the MOT display. We took a vote to express interest in the project, and said that another vote would be taken to approve funds after we see a detailed estimate. Approved minutes are published in our quarterly publication, the RPO.

Paymasters Report
Dave said that most of the income is from convention registrations. The expenditures that he highlighted include an annual cost for our web site, and the wheelset purchase from Intermountain. APPROVED as read.

Merchandise Report
Tim said that he has received 5 NMRA standards gauges in HO scale, to add to the N scale we have had for a while. A resale price was set: $6.00 to members and $7.50 to the public. He expects to have the wheelsets in stock next month.

RPO Report
John Carty was not present. No Report.

Directors Report
Phil was not present. No report.

Achievement Program (AP) Report
No report.

Monthly Meeting Clinician Report
No report.

Old Business
2012 MCoR Convention – Hank passed around several sign-up sheets for various jobs at the convention. We have about 20 people already signed up with an additional 5 spouses. The UP car shop tour is popular. Hank encouraged all members to get registered. OPEN

MoT Display – No progress this month. OPEN

Mailing fees - There was some additional brief discussion over mailing fees. Ultimately, the membership voted to maintain the status-quo for another year. CLOSED

New Business No new business.

Announcements
Hank announced again that a DPM kit will be passed out in May to the membership to build for the model contest at the September meeting.

50/50 – Forty-five dollars was collected, and Jerry Jungers won the drawing and took home $23. The treasury was enriched by $22. Dave Lyon won the Mark Twain Hobbies’ gift card.

Adjournment Hank asked for a MOTION to adjourn the business meeting 8:16 PM. Jim Ables made the motion. Gregor Moe SECONDED, and PASSED by all.

Respectfully Submitted,
Don Ayres, Gateway Division Clerk

Meeting Minutes for March 19, 2012
Hank Kraichely, Superintendent, hkrichely@sbcglobal.net
Bill Linson, Assistant Superintendent
Phil Bonzon, MMR, MCoR Director
Don Ayres, Clerk, ayresd1@charter.net
Dave Lyon, Paymaster
Ron Gawedzinski, Activity Coordinator

CLINIC – Dave Barker talked about his layout: how he built his double track mainline railroad, and how he operates it with few staging yards. It’s (sort of) based on MoPac. He explained his full color handout, showed photographs, and entertained the group with the clever names of many of the locales on his layout. He entertained many questions from an interested group. Thanks, Dave!

BUSINESS MEETING –
The Superintendent called the business meeting to order at 7:07 PM. There were 34 members and 2 guests present. Vince York is an HO scale modeler. He also is president of the Kirkwood Railroad Association. Tom James, an O scale modeler, is just getting
back into the hobby. He also volunteers at the Museum of Transport (MoT).

Minutes of the Previous Month’s Meeting
The minutes of the February meeting were APPROVED with one change. Approved minutes are published in our quarterly publication, the RPO.

Paymasters Report
Dave said that most money is continuing to come in for the 2012 MCoR Convention. APPROVED as read.

Merchandise Report
Tim announced that he has HO scale standards gauges in stock. The order from Intermountain is not here yet.

RPO Report
John Carty was not present. Hank mentioned that April 1st is the deadline for submissions for the next issue.

Directors Report
Phil was not present. No report.

Achievement Program (AP) Report
No report.

Monthly Meeting Clinician Report
The June, August, and October clinics are still available to anyone who wants to present a clinic.

Old Business
2012 MCoR Convention – Almost all of the dealer tables have been sold. Hank urged everyone to register and get signed up for their preferred tours. There are over 55 registrations already. Hank circulated the sign-up sheets to volunteer to work. A question came up about how expensive the banquet was. Hank talked about the location at MoT, table rental, food, and an open bar are all included in the major expenses for this event. Ron Gawedzinski detailed the 3 prototype tours. Hank had fliers to deliver to local hobby shops. The clinic schedule and the layout tour schedule is still being tweaked as the committee tries to de-conflict the schedules as much as possible. OPEN

MoT Display – No progress this month.
OPEN

New Business No new business.

Announcements
Hank has approached DPM and they have agreed to supply the kit for our contest model that will be passed out in May.

Brian Post showed/ talked about a new item that is sold by Switch Control Systems.

Don Gathright announced that The Union Pacific Railroad would be through St Louis with #844 and a consist of 20 some passenger cars transporting Civil War re-enactors.

50/50 – Forty-one dollars was collected, and Moe Berk won the drawing and took home $21. The treasury was enriched by $20. Brian Post won the Mark Twain Hobbies’ gift card.

Adjournment Hank asked for a MOTION to adjourn the business meeting 7:42 PM. Bob Sanderson made the motion. Jim Ables SECONDED. PASSED by all.

Respectfully Submitted,
Don Ayres, Gateway Division Clerk

Meeting Minutes for April 16, 2012

Hank Kraichely, Superintendent, hkraichely@sbcglobal.net
Bill Linson, Assistant Superintendent
Phil Bonzon, MMR, MCoR Director
Don Ayres, Clerk, ayresd1@charter.net
Dave Lyon, Paymaster
Ron Gawedzinski, Activity Coordinator

CLINIC – John Golden, a non-member, gave us a presentation on his group, the Railroad Prototype Modelers. This group has no formal organization and exists only as a bunch of guys who e-mail each other. They do have enough members, though, that they agree to meet frequently. One such meet will be held July 27 and 28 at the Gateway Center in Collinsville, IL.

BUSINESS MEETING –
The Superintendent called the business meeting to order at 7:45 PM. There were 19 members and 2 guests present. Joe Sweet attended with his wife. They live in north St. Louis.

Minutes of the Previous Month’s Meeting

The minutes of the March meeting were APPROVED following the MOTION by Phil Bonzon, and a SECOND from Jim Ables. Approved minutes are published in our quarterly publication, the RPO.

Paymasters Report

There was a lot of activity this month connected with the upcoming convention we are hosting. Registrations continue to come in and a down payment was made to the hotel. Gary Gross suggested a change in the way that the convention information displays on the report. Dave said he would “take it under advisement and give it all the consideration it deserves”. After the laughter died down a bit, Gary did make the motion to accept the report as written. The $491 expenditure was payment on last year’s picnic costs. Gary Gross made a MOTION to approve, and it was SECONDED by Phil. APPROVED by all.

Merchandise Report

Tim announced that the 33” wheelsets are not here yet. We appear to have most of the sets in the current order sold already. These are sold at a reduced cost as a member benefit.

RPO Report

John Carty was not present. No Report.

Directors Report

Phil reiterated that the Caboose Kibitzer, the Region’s monthly magazine is available by download only. Membership to the Region, and the Kibitzer, is free with a membership to NMRA.

Achievement Program (AP) Report

Bob Johnson is getting very close to his author certificate. Phil stressed again that we should all be more active in getting at least the Golden Spike certificate. He said that everyone in the room tonight should be able to get this AP certificate easily.

Monthly Meeting Clinician Report

Hank reminded everyone that the DPM contest kit would be passed out next month to the first 35 members in attendance. This is another member benefit. Those who take a kit are asked to build the kit and bring it back to the September meeting to be judged. Richard Schumacher will provide a clinic, also.

Jim Ables will present our clinic on creating a video in June.

Old Business

2012 MCoR Convention – All of the dealer tables are sold. There are over 63 registrations already, but not many from Gateway Division membership. There are about 50 tickets sold for the banquet. Ron Gawedzinski detailed the 3 prototype tours. The AMB tour is sold out, and the other 2 are about half full. Hank circulated the sign-up sheets to volunteer to work. The volunteer sheet to man the registration table is full. Hank had more fliers to deliver to local hobby shops. The clinic schedule and the layout tour schedule is set and has been publicized. OPEN

MoT Display – Dave Roeder stated that the MoT had used all of the display space and was no longer soliciting the donation of a static display model railroad from us. CLOSED.

New Business No new business.

Announcements

Dave Roeder has an article in the latest Railroad Model Craftsman that also promotes our convention.

Ron Gawedzinski announced that the date of our joint picnic with the St Louis Chapter of the National Railroad Historical Society will be September 15 from 11 – 3 PM. The location has not been firmed up.

50/50 – Twenty five dollars was collected, and Tim Stout won the drawing and took home $13. The treasury was enriched by $12. Hank won the Mark Twain Hobbies’ gift card.
Adjournment  Hank asked for a MOTION to adjourn the business meeting 8:25 PM.  Jim Ables made the MOTION.  Phil Bonzon SECONDED.  PASSED by all.

Respectfully Submitted,
Don Ayres, Gateway Division Clerk

NMRA MCoR Region & Gateway Division

The National Model Railroad Association (NMRA) is a world-wide organization dedicated to all aspects of model railroading. In order to bring the most benefit to its members, the association is subdivided into Regions, and each Region has a number of local Divisions. National dues are $58 per year, and all members of the NMRA are automatically members of the Region and Division in which they live. The Gateway Division is part of the Mid-Continent Region, which represents Missouri, Kansas, Arkansas, Oklahoma, Nebraska, and parts of Iowa and Illinois.

The Mid-Continent Region publishes a quarterly bulletin, The Caboose Kibitzer, and holds an annual convention meeting that usually includes modeling clinics, local tours of layouts or prototype facilities, and model contests. Annual subscription to the Mid-Continent Region Caboose Kibitzer is $12 and runs concurrently with membership at the National level.

The Gateway Division is well represented on the regional and national levels of the NMRA. Its members actively promote the modeling hobby through local monthly meetings, this quarterly newsletter, an annual train meet in the fall, participation in area train shows and other events, and a comprehensive website. Annual subscription to the Gateway Division RPO is $5, running from July 1 through June 30. Members who subscribe mid-year are given extended memberships. In addition to the quarterly newsletter, a member directory is published listing names, addresses, and information about individual modeling interests. New members also receive a Division membership pin.

Membership is open to anyone from the beginner to the most advanced modeler, of all ages, so that everyone can share questions and knowledge of the hobby. Visitors are welcome at the monthly Division meetings listed on our website, www.gatewaynmra.org

To join, visit our website and complete the form at http://gatewaynmra.org/membership.htm

Division Officers
Superintendent
Hank Kraichely

Assistant Superintendent
Bill Linson

Clerk (Secretary)
Don Ayres

Paymaster (Treasurer)
Dave Lyon

Division Director
Phil Bonzon, MMR