



RPO

Winter 2020: Volume 27, Number 4

The *RPO* is the official publication
of the Gateway Division
of the National Model Railroad Association

Editor: John Carty

Articles, photos and any other materials for publication are to be sent to the Editor. No payment can be made for publication of any materials. Regular issues are published quarterly: Spring, Summer, Fall, and Winter. Subscriptions to the *RPO* are available to members of the NMRA as a service provided by members of the Gateway Division. Send subscription applications and renewals to the Division Treasurer.

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Editor, *The RPO*
Gateway Division NMRA
715 W. Cleveland Ave
Belleville, IL 62220

Articles may be submitted as handwritten, typed, plain unformatted text on disk, or plain text via email to johnpcarty@hotmail.com; photo submissions may be made as hi-res digital files, 35mm slides or negatives or as prints.

Submission deadlines:

Spring: April 1
Summer: July 1
Fall: October 1
Winter: January 1

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Visit our website at
www.gatewaynmra.org

On the Cover

photo by Richard Schumacher

Bob Felker's Catsup Water Tower took 2nd Place in Off-Line Structures during the 2019 Gateway Division Fall Meet Contest. See the rest of the winners starting on page .

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Superintendent's Desk

by Willie Richter

What is the most important benefit you get from being a member of the Gateway Division? That is a great question. Some would say it is access to the Videos and NMRA documentation. Others would say it is having a group that you can ask questions and get help. Still others might say it's the clinics each month. Over the last year my answer has changed. I did answer this question last February at the St. Charles Train Show. My answer was the clinics. The information is invaluable. That was my answer then. Now I have come to realize my answer has changed. It is the people.

Over the last year we have lost some key members of our organization. Most recently Rich Velton. I had the privilege

of working the information booth with Rich at the Division Meet in November. We talked about trains of course but we talked about other things as well. Then I sat with him at the Christmas Dinner and had a great time. He was always smiling and positive. He will be missed. While sitting at his funeral service I began thinking about how Model Railroading as well as joining the NMRA has changed my life. When I look around at the meetings, I don't see members, I see friends. I see people that I would enjoy sharing a meal with. I see people that are interested in me and people that I am interested in knowing better. I see friends.

My best friend became my best friend because of Model Railroading. When I left my old job that could have very well been the last time that I saw Charles, but instead we decided to build a railroad empire together. This was that catalyst to a great friendship that I cherish.

So next time you are at a Gateway Meeting, a train show, even the upcoming 2020 National Convention, look around. You will be surrounded by friends that you know and even some friends you haven't met yet. Walk up and say hello. A few great conversation starters could be: Steam or Diesel, HO, O or N, Narrow or Standard, DC or DCC. Strike up that conversation and get to know a friend better. You never know how that friendship will change your life.

Willie Richter
Superintendent, Gateway Division

Under the Wire

by John Carty, Editor

In case you were wondering, yes, I am again running behind with this issue. The good news is that next issue should make it out by the end of April putting it more or less back on schedule. A pair of articles submitted for this issue will appear in the Spring issue, since I concentrated on reporting on the activities of the division.

Normally, I would be noting how baseball and softball seasons are just about to start for my kids, while their dance classes are building up to the recital. These are not normal times, with schools closed, possibly until next year due the manifestation of this pestilence. While my employer is considered essential, my wife, a teacher whose school is closed at the moment, is now home schooling our children. I get home at night and shower immediately in order to minimize possible contamination.

Shortly before this all started, I made some finds on eBay and now seek opportunity to build the new kits. Hopefully the aforementioned children will join me and gain a foothold in the hobby. At the same time, I will get to stretch my skill set.

We have lost three active members of the Gateway Division in the last year. I will miss their presence at functions. Friends made through our organization remain the best benefit of membership. Whether just shooting the breeze or discerning how to improve our modeling or even just encouraging each other's efforts, the friends made here are special. Seeing these friends stand out as a highlight of every event put on by the NMRA. Our shared interest in trains providing a catalyst for companionship.

While compiling the Timetable of Events at the end of this issue, I realized just how tenuous our connections can be. Every event listed there will be subject to the whims of fate in relation to the ongoing fight to contain the outbreak of this virus from China. When this episode ends, I will definitely have a greater appreciation of the opportunities afforded by my membership in not just the NMRA, but all organizations to which I belong.

Until we can meet again, keep safe.

John Carty
Editor

Director's Reflections

by David Lowell

What do I get from the NMRA?

What do I get from the NMRA? Or what do I get for my NMRA dues. These are fair questions and ones that are discussed with some regularity in both national publications and local circles. So, I thought I would provide a couple of examples from right here in our MCoR Region and the Gateway Division, since that is what has the greatest impact on us.

In the last issue of the RPO Dave Roeder, MMR, shared an article on what it takes to support your model entries correctly by explaining how to complete the NMRA judging forms properly with all back up documentation in order. This was concise, insightful, helpful and important advice as well as a great example of the education component of the NMRA. Now, I'm not hawking some pyramid scheme here to sell you home products. But I am telling you from personal experience this is one example of what the NMRA does for you. It works to make the hobby more enjoyable by teaching us how to be

better modelers in whatever form you model.

After I marked up to the NMRA in February 2015 I entered a single diorama at the Fall Meet and I did okay. The next fall, 2016, I was fortunate enough to be awarded the Best in Show for a structure I built. The difference in how I placed, because my skill level had not really changed in the course of one year, was that after the 2015 meet I approached Dave and asked him if he would give me some pointers since he had basically run the table in 2015. As an MMR it is part of their mission in the NMRA to be mentors. And he did that happily. So my models in 2016 got better scores because, technically, a competitor shared his years of knowledge to help me do better. That is what the NMRA does for you making the hobby more enjoyable. Now keep in mind you do not have to be an MMR to be a mentor. Every month members and guests provide education on myriad model railroad topics at our monthly meetings.

Another example of what the NMRA can do for you is the NMRA standards. **Free** access (to NMRA members) to droves of engineering data provided by fellow model railroaders to help you work on whatever project you may be engrossed in. Just there for your use easily accessed through the members only section of the NMRA website. General topics like English to metric conversion tables and tools. Scenery, Track work, Motive power, Rolling stock, Structures, Electrical, Operations, and Prototype info. Everything you need to know to enhance the enjoyment of the hobby. All provided for your use from some pretty talented guys who have shared all this accumulated knowledge into one central repository so you can increase your learning and enjoyment curve.

The NMRA also gives us access to the SIGs, or Special Interest Groups.

Groups like Operations Special Interest Group or the Layout Design Special Interested group as well as several others. Like with the technical data discussed above a vast wealth on knowledge becomes readily available, complete with mentors.

The NMRA keeps you current on what's going on in the hobby on a host of subjects. This is accomplished through NMRA publications like the monthly magazine, our regional publication the Caboose Kibitzer and the Division's publication, the RPO. All containing articles about many fascinating topics, inspiring editorials and encouragement from members like the great piece by Venita Lake in the last issue of the RPO. Just reaching out to say hey, put down the remote and hit the workbench. That is part of our entire mission in the NMRA. Encourage others in the hobby.

The NMRA helps by giving us access to interesting prototypical train related tours we would never otherwise get to see up-close and personal, like the long list of great trips that Ron Gawedzinski has graciously put together over the years.

Fellowship; A topic I have already opined on in great detail. But let's face it, while we all enjoy the model railroad hobby in our own particular idiom, one common thread is the comradery, friendships, and interaction we all enjoy with other folks in the same hobby.

Certainly, a perk of this group association is the opportunity that the NMRA affords us to meet our heroes in the hobby. Events like the St. Louis RPM, our annual regional conventions, Divisional Fall Meet and the National Convention, which will be right here in St. Louis in July 2020, allow us personal access to some of the names who have been stalwarts in the hobby. It gives a chance to meet them in the flesh and

talk with them in person, attend their clinics and presentations, and even thank them for the encouragement they have given us.

And finally, to bring this thought explosion in to the station and some semblance of a wrap up. I will remind you again of my previous challenge to you. What would happen if each one of chose to make an incremental effort to participate just a little more? Come to a meeting at least once a year if you come to none. If you only come to either the Missouri or Illinois side, come a little farther and expand your horizons. I know many of you are a wealth of knowledge on a particular topic, or many topics. Share it! I want to learn and I want to know what other modelers and rail fans are up to. Enter just one model in the fall meet. Take a shift at the PR table at a show and shoot the breeze about trains for a while. Or, come to one of many other activates. We average about 20 attendees at the meetings out of 216 +/- current members. We, as a group, can make this incremental increase happen. Look at my BOD report recap in the Spring 2019 RPO and remind yourself what we are already doing! Let's open up the throttle another notch.

I will always be available, as well as the great team of officers we have, to receive any comments or suggestions you may have. You can reach me at LowellCoMotive@gmail.com

Happy Rails

David C. Lowell

Director,

Gateway Division, Mid Continent Region

Nation Model Railroad Association

Operations Weekend

By Carl Wessel

I have been invited to and involved in many operations weekends for many years, and still are! The most recent weekend was SEMIOPS – South East Michigan Operations. This was a three-day, four layout weekend, on layouts in and around Detroit Michigan.

The dates for the weekend were May 17th thru 19th, 2019. The day started by flying into the airport and booking into the hotel. I then proceeded over to the host hotel, next door, to meet/greet and get my name tag and check for any changes.

The first railroad, Friday evening was the John Depaw's full basement, two level representation of the E J & E Railroad. I drew the BN Operator position bringing trains in from Galesburg Staging to Eola Yard for accessing the E J & E route and taking outbound trains back to Staging. I also operated the local switcher westbound along the mainline.

The second railroad, Saturday Morning was Michael Kisser's Allegany Western Central Division which was a newly constructed, single level in a small basement. The railroad was mostly single track mainline, with one town laid out, with some scenery started. There were four operators on the layout, with two yard positions, and two road jobs. The main yard which I operated had a unique feature, it had the new "prototype throttle" which mimics the real locomotive operations. As he was just getting going on operations, it was nice and slow with only a few trains that were operated.

The third layout, Saturday Afternoon was Mike Berget's C & O, Clifton Forge Division. A fully scenic, full basement, two level, CTC controlled railroad. This

railroad has been featured in many magazine articles. He is a CN Railroad Signal Manager for the line between Chicago and Detroit. He built his own CTC machine and signal systems. For this session I was assigned the West local and took about five hours to complete the journey from the originating yard into the staging yard.

The fourth railroad on Sunday Morning was an interesting delight, Dave Simpson's "O" Scale Western Maryland. I choose to operate the Cumberland Maryland Yard. The yard saw several thru freights and several local turns during the session. It was really fun to work with the larger scale verses having enjoyed HO scale for the other three prior sessions. I also had an engine hostler assigned to handle the engine change outs or assignments that occurred on all trains, the hostler also helped out with my switching duties when time allowed.

It was a very fun and enjoyable weekend meeting new owners, old operating friends, seeing railroads that I had not visited before, and enjoying different styles of operation. I departed for the airport by way of an actual track crossing point of the CSX & CP just to the West of the airport. I also found a local town museum which had the original relocated freight depot building, which contained many old photographs of the original crossing with all of the surrounding structures, along with an actual C & O caboose that happened to be as old as myself, same birth date!

Look for future articles on operations weekends.

In Memorium

by Jim Ables

Long-time NMRA and Gateway Division member Richard (Rich) Velten passed away on December 29, 2019. Rich was an active supporter of Division serving as Paymaster for the past eight years and Fall Meet chairman. Rich was also Mr fix-it, if you had an engine that didn't work, needed a new decoder, or needed to be upgraded from DC to DCC Rich was your man.

Rich's passion was trains, he was a member of the Model Railroaders at the National Museum of Transportation and a major contributor to the Holiday Model Railroad display. He operated the museum's antique trolleys and maintained the gates for the Museum Miniature Railroad. Rich was an active member of the Boeing Railroad Club and past president and former treasurer of the Kirkwood Model Railroad Association.

Outside the hobby, Rich was active in his community serving as an Alderman



in the City of Ballwin for eight years and was a founding member of the Ballwin Days Committee. He served as president of the West St. Louis County Jaycees and was given the prestigious JCI Senator award.

Rich is survived by his wife Marilyn J. Velten (nee Vogel), his sons Michael R. Velten and Scott D. Velten, and brother of Ken Velten.

We are thankful for all Rich did for the Gateway Division and will miss him greatly.

Thank you

A photograph of a handwritten note on a piece of paper. The text is written in cursive and reads: "Dear Members of the Gateway NMRA, Thank you for thinking of us during this difficult time. Your card meant a lot to us, as did the NMRA to my dad. I'm sure he's been hard at work on his layout in Heaven! Thank you again, Friends & Family of Donald Ayres".

Dear Members of the Gateway NMRA,
Thank you for thinking of us during this difficult time. Your card meant a lot to us, as did the NMRA to my dad. I'm sure he's been hard at work on his layout in Heaven! Thank you again,
Friends & Family of Donald Ayres

2019 Fall Meet Contest Results

1st Place Steam Locomotive: SG&N #34, Dave Roeder



1st Place Diesel Locomotive: Paducah Louisville, Bob Felker



2nd Place Diesel Locomotive:
Davenport #3, Dave Roeder



3rd Place Diesel Locomotive:
CRGX #2 RAILSERVE, Dave
Roeder

1st Place Passenger Car: Hannible & St. Joe #10, Dave Roeder



1st Place Freight Car: Victor Gold Mining Co. #350, Dave Roeder



2nd Place Freight Car: St. Louis Northern Short Line #1828, Dave Roeder



3rd Place Freight Car: Petrolane Gas Co. #3209, Dave Roeder





1st Place Caboose: PORV
#10, Dave Roeder

2nd Place Caboose: PRR
#492401, Dave Roeder

1st Place On-Line Structure:
Crystal Ice, Greg Gramlich



1st Place Off-Line Structure: Yankem & Pullin, Robert Miller



2nd Place Off-Line Structure: Catsup Water Tower (Cover), Bob Felker

3rd Place Off-Line Structure: Motel, Greg Gramlich



1st Place Diorama: Trailer Park, Glen Koproske



2nd Place Diorama: Kansas City HSS, Chris Oestreich



1st Place (tie) Whole Train: Southern Pacific Coal Train, Greg Gramlich



1st Place (tie) Whole Train: B&O Train, Jack Stroker



1st Place (tie) Model Photo: Downtown St. Louis, Richard Schumacher



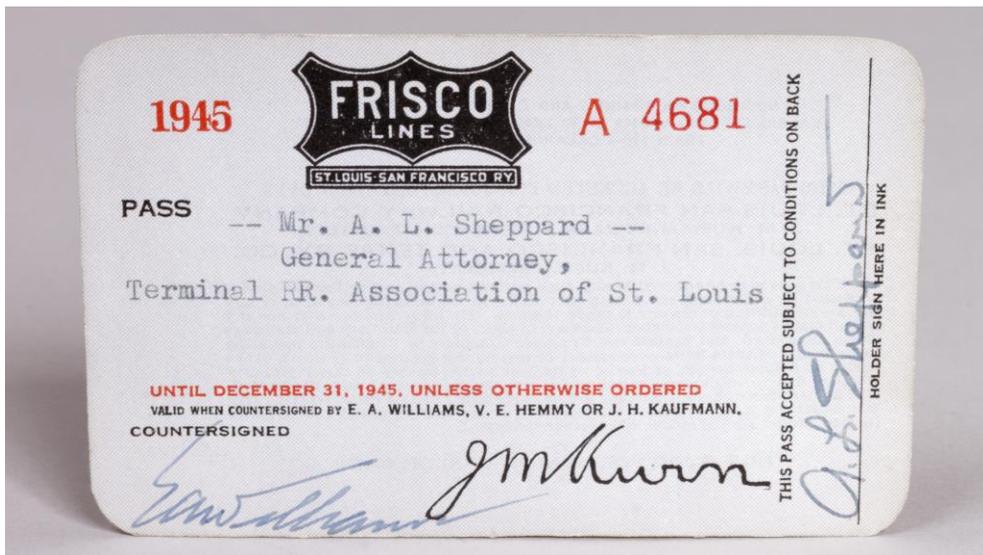
1st Place (tie) Model Photo: Illinois Terminal, Steve Goring



2nd Place Model Photo: Mill St. Crossing, Robert Miller



1st Place Pass: Frisco 1945, Robert Miller



1st Place Prototype Photo: NS Wabash Heritage Unit, Steve Goaring



2nd Place Prototype Photo: E. St. Louis, Patrick Fontane



3rd Place Prototype Photo: IC in Snow, Steve Goaring



Tour of Micro Engineering Co., Fenton, MO

by Ron Gawedzinsk

On Tuesday morning, September 24, 2019, a joint group of 27 members and guests from the Gateway Division NMRA and the St. Louis Chapter

Our group was split into two smaller groups, with Ron Rands, owner of MEC, and Kim Driskill, as our tour guides. They gave us an extensive



Gateway Division and St. Louis Chapter members and guests.

NRHS toured Micro Engineering Co. (MEC) manufacturing shop in Fenton, Missouri.

MEC was started in 1964 under original name of "Rail Craft Products." MEC manufactures a wide assortment of model railroad products, from track to turnouts, bridges, viaducts, structures, detail parts and vehicles, under a variety of scales and gauges.

tour of the shop on a weekday, under actual working conditions. They provided excellent explanations of what went on at each manufacturing step; for example, creating the metal dies for the products, to inserting rails and parts into the dies, injecting plastic into the dies, and releasing the finished product. We saw and learned a lot more details and appreciation for what



Kim demonstrating equipment usage.

special expertise it takes to fabricate the numerous model railroad products. We viewed and gained a better insight into the specialized equipment and labor used in the production of the parts, from inception to final product.

We were allowed to take pictures. We asked

Ron explaining a step in the manufacturing process.



Assortments of dies used in the manufacturing process.



patient and informative with their answers. Ron Rands, the tour was a great success! Immediately after the MEC tour a number of members took the opportunity to visit David Bufka's layout, a short distance away from MEC. The HO layout is in the attic of a 12 by 15-foot room in his home over 100 years old. The scenery, with a double main track, was great. Particularly entertaining was a group of animated, clucking chickens. Thanks, David, for letting us see your layout. Tour arranged by Ron



Ron explaining lost wax casting process.



Ron explain about the dies used.

Ron explaining another step in the lost wax casting process



Announcement

by Ron Gawdzinski

Joint Tour to Barriger National
Railroad Library, Univ. of Mo. – St.
Louis Campus, scheduled for
Saturday, April 4, 2020, **has been
cancelled.** Due to concerns related

to coronavirus St. Louis Mercantile
Library has decided to cancel all
tours scheduled through Sunday,
April 12.

The tour by Gateway Division NMRA and the St. Louis Chapter NRHS **has been rescheduled to Saturday, April 25, 2020, 1:00 PM – 4:00 PM.**

If you have already signed up for the tour **let me know** if you **can make the new, rescheduled date** and time **or not**. If you haven't signed up for the tour and can now make it for the new date let me know by email or telephone. Sign-up sheets will be available at the next meetings for both groups, whenever that may be.

Thanks for your time, Ron
Gawedzinski, rwgawed@yahoo.com,
314-846-5559.

Division Minutes

by Gregor Moe

Meeting Minutes for September 16, 2019

Superintendent: Willie Richter

Assistant Superintendent: Dan Knipp

Paymaster: Richard Velten

Clerk: Gregor Moe

MCoR Director: David Lowell

Activity Coordinator: Ron Gawedzinski

Publicity Chairman: Jim Ables

Membership Chairman: Bill Linson

AP Chairman: John Carty

Contest Chairman: Chris Oestreich

Clinic: Steve Hamilton -"Railroad Radio Communications" Railroads use 2-way radios to communicate between crews, dispatchers and yardmasters. I'll explain a little about wireless radio history, basic radio theory, early and current railroad use, details and how to apply those details to our model railroads.

Business Meeting:

Superintendent Willie Richter called the meeting to order. There were 31 members present and 1 guest Randall Colton.

Minutes of Previous Month's Meeting

Minutes from the August meeting were

available for review prior to the meeting start. The minutes were approved.

Treasurer's Report

Rich Velten presented the paymaster's report. The opening balance was \$21,799.31 during the month we had receipts of \$263.01 and expenses of \$147.98. The closing balance was \$21,914.34. The Income was from the fall meet payments, expenses were for office supplies. The report was approved.

Merchandise Report

Rich Velten stated that there are 33" wheel sets and standard gauges available. Jim Ables reported on shirts, a vote was taken for the color of the shirts and black was the choice.

RPO Report

The RPO is now caught up. But the publisher is looking for articles for the fall addition.

Directors Report

Hank Kraichely reported that He has taken over advertising for the Caboose Kibitzer. Brad Sloan is the new president of the region.

Achievement Program (AP) Report

No report.

Publicity Chair Report

Jim Ables thanked the people who worked at Mark Twain.

Outside Activities Report

Ron reported the tour of the micro engineering facility Tuesday September 24 at 10:00 is full with a waiting list. He has a tour to Moberly to visit a train museum, lunch, and train ride all for only \$50 with a few spaces left..

Operations Activities Report

Greg Gramlich reported he had set up an operation session at K-10 Hobbies for Saturday September 21 starting at 12:30.

Old Business

The 2020 convention the registration fee is \$150.

The election committee was formed with Walter Brennan, Walter Beckman, and Gregor Moe.

Bill Linson moved to have the addendum for the membership listing opt in form to be sent out with the ballot for officers. Dick Wagner seconded the motion. The motion carried.

New Business

Bill Linson moved to have the addendum for the membership listing opt in form to be sent out with the ballot for officers. Dick Wagner

seconded the motion. The motion carried.
Bill Linson reported he had not received this month's division membership list from national.

The holiday party will be at the Ballwin municipal golf course. The cost for members is \$18.00. Need to have reservations in November 11th.

Jim Ables said that the 2020 committee will be contacting local groups seeking volunteers to work the 2020 convention. The groups will receive \$10.00 for each hour the volunteer works.

Announcements

No announcements.

Upcoming clinic

October clinic will be by Tom Ose on arduinos

November will be the holiday party.

December will be a, bring and brag.

Drawings

50/50 winner: Bob Miller

Gift Card winner: Don Knipp

Bear Creek Model Railroad foam cradle: David Brennan

Respectfully Submitted,

Gregor Moe,

Clerk, Gateway Division

Meeting Minutes for September 16, 2019

Superintendent: Willie Richter

Assistant Superintendent: Dan Knipp

Paymaster: Richard Velten

Clerk: Gregor Moe

MCoR Director: David Lowell

Activity Coordinator: Ron Gawedzinski

Publicity Chairman: Jim Ables

Membership Chairman: Bill Linson

AP Chairman: John Carty

Contest Chairman: Chris Oestreich

Clinic: Tom Ose reviewed Arduino for model railroads and what has happened over the last year. He showed new technology used for lighting and turnout control, as well as for signaling and interaction with JMRI.

Business Meeting:

Superintendent Willie Richter called the meeting to order. There were 21 members present.

Minutes of Previous Month's Meeting

Minutes from the August meeting were available for review prior to the meeting start. The minutes were approved.

Treasurer's Report

Rich Velten presented the paymaster's report. The opening balance was \$21,914.34 during the month we had receipts of \$522.17 and expenses of \$227.72. The closing balance was \$22,208.79. The Income was from the fall meet and party payments, expenses were for miscellaneous expenses. The report was approved.

Merchandise Report

Rich Velten stated that there are 33" wheel sets and standard gauges available.

RPO Report

The RPO is the publisher is looking for articles for the winter addition by 1 Jan.

Directors Report

The Caboose Kibitzer has been published and is on the web site. The publisher is looking for articles.

Achievement Program (AP) Report

No report.

Publicity Chair Report

Jim Ables thanked the people who worked at Mark Twain. The next meet is Collinsville and looking for volunteers.

Outside Activities Report

No report.

Operations Activities Report

No report.

Old Business

The 2020 convention the registration fee is \$150.

The election committee has four people running for office.

Rich Velten reported on the holiday party the last day to sign up is Nov 10. The holiday party will be at the Ballwin municipal golf course. The cost for members is \$18.00

New Business

Rich asked for volunteers for the fall meet. He had signup sheets available.

Jim Ables said that the 2020 committee will be contacting local groups seeking volunteers to work the 2020 convention. The group's remunerations for each hour the volunteer works is still being decided. Michel Gross will be the banquet speaker.

After research the group's constitution was replaced by the group's regulations. Need to get the web master to delete the constitution from the web site.

Looking for someone to handle the sale of Don Ayres layout.

Jim Ables showed photos of storage items to handle the group's audio visual and display layout out equipment. A motion was made to use up to four hundred dollars to buy the storage items. The motion passed.

Announcements

No announcements.

Upcoming clinic

November will be the holiday party.

December will be a, bring and brag.

Drawings

Gift Card winner: David Lowell

Respectfully Submitted,

Gregor Moe,

Clerk, Gateway Division

Timetable of Events

Do you know of an event of interest to other Gateway Division members? Send the information to the editor so it can be listed in future *RPOs* and on the www.gatewaynmra.org website.

NMRA Divisions or St. Louis area clubs may have their event listed here by sending a description of the event, in the format shown here, to the Editor (rpo@gatewaynmra.org).

Mon., April 20, 2020

Gateway Division Meeting, VFW Hall, O'Fallon, IL, 7 p.m. Clinic by John Schindler on Operations.

Thur., April 23, 2020

Book Launch Party: Missouri: An Illustrated Timeline of 200 Years of History, St. Louis Union Station, New York/Illinois Central ballroom, St. Louis, MO, 7-8 p.m. with reception 6-7 p.m. in Terminal Atrium. Multimedia presentation by John Brown, author. Attendees will be given a discount pass to enjoy the

new St. Louis Wheel and can also enjoy the laser light shows in the Grand Hall following the event.

Mon., May 18, 2020

Gateway Division Meeting, Trinity Lutheran Church, 14088 Clayton Rd, at Woods Mill Road (Hwy 141), Ballwin, MO (West St Louis County), 7 p.m.

Sat., February 14, 2004

Dupo Show 2004, train swap meet, 10 a.m. – 3 p.m., Dupo High Gym, Dupo, Illinois. Admission: \$3, 12 and under free with an adult. Contact Reynolds Railways, 212 N. Main Street, Dupo, IL 62239-1227, (618) 286-3399, comptrain2002@yahoo.com

Mon., June 15, 2020

Gateway Division Meeting, VFW Hall, O'Fallon, IL, 7 p.m. Sun. thru Sat., July 12-18, 2020

Gateway 2020 NMRA National

Convention and Train Show, for information [Please email us at: info@gateway2020.org](mailto:info@gateway2020.org).

Mon., July 20, 2020

Gateway Division Meeting, Trinity Lutheran Church, 14088 Clayton Rd, at Woods Mill Road (Hwy 141), Ballwin, MO (West St Louis County), 7 p.m.

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 \$72 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 included with membership at the National level and runs concurrently.

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 \$10, running from July 1 through June 30. Members who subscribe mid-year are given extended memberships. The division's official mailing address is on the "Contact Us" page on the website: <http://www.gatewaynmra.org/gateway-nmra-contact-us/>. Checks may be sent to Gateway Division NMRA, PO Box 7742, Chesterfield, Missouri 63006-7742. 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

Division Officers

Superintendent
Willie Richter

Assistant Superintendent
Dan Knipp

Clerk (Secretary)
Gregor Moe (Bonnie)

Paymaster (Treasurer)
Open pending special election

Division Director
David Lowell

