



**A Visit to the Quincy Society of Model Engineers**

# RPO

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of the Gateway Division  
of the National Model Railroad Association

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## In This Issue

Stockyard Upgrade .....	4
Quincy Tour .....	6
Upcoming Events.....	8
Division Minutes.....	9
AAA Transfer .....	11

## On the Cover

*photo by Joe Obernuefemann*

The engine facilities and backshop in Keating, PA, are in the foreground of this view of the Quincy Society of Model Engineers' Chesapeake & Lake Erie layout. The plaque is a memorial to QSME member Jerry Kemner, who designed the layout.

## Superintendent's Desk

*by Hank Kraichely*

### **WHERE WERE YOU WHEN**

...members of the Gateway Division and NRHS drove to Quincy, IL. to see and run trains on the Quincy Model Railroad Clubs great layout. Everyone had a good time and came away with one or more ideas to incorporate in their layout.

...Greg Gray led a hands-on clinic on freight car weathering. Members present were given paints and brushes to use on cars they brought to the meeting.

...in May, each Division member present was given a DPM building along with an extra wall, end and a few detail parts to kit bash into their own unique structure. This clinic provided each member with an opportunity to expand their construction and decorating techniques, in keeping with one of the Division's goals, education.

...Brian Post presented a hands-on DCC decoder installation clinic. Each member brought one or more locomotives in which they installed a hard wired decoder. Brian also covered some simple maintenance procedures including lubrication and checking that the wheels were in gauge.

### **What are the planned activities for the balance of 2009?**

September will see the second annual Division/NRHS family picnic at the WF&P Railroad in Glencoe. There will be train rides, tours of the facility and great food, **TOTALLY FREE.**

- The September, the Division meeting will feature a show and tell with each member explaining how they built and decorated their DPM structure. This will be followed by a member popular vote with the top three vote getters receiving a \$50.00, \$30.00 or \$20.00 Hobby Shop gift certificate.
- The Division is also planning a trip to Litchfield, IL. to run/operate trains on the club model railroad.
- November features the Division's 8<sup>th</sup> annual Fall Meet. A day of clinics, model contest, shopping in the dealer room, capped off with an evening layout tour.
- Later in the month we host the Division Christmas party. Bring your wife or a friend and great treats and great entertainment. You may have missed the spring activities but why not make the decision to attend several meetings this fall. This is your Division, so set aside the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of each month to attend the Division meeting and you will meet good people and have fun.

If you have email and would like to receive monthly meeting reminders and the RPO in color, send me your email address and I will see that you are added to electronic distribution list. My email is [hkraichely@sbcglobal.net](mailto:hkraichely@sbcglobal.net).

## Gateway Division Website Statistics

*by Richard Schumacher*

GatewayNMRA.org Website Summary Report for the Month of June 2009

**Page Views** (Impressions): 72,279  
(about 2,409/day)

**Visits:** 50,953 (about 1,698/day)

Average Number of Visitors per day on Weekdays: 1,742

Average Number of Visitors for the entire Weekend: 3,152

Bandwidth: Kbytes Transferred Over Time: 16,106,099KB

### **Top 15 Countries**

1. United States 37,720 88.14%
2. Australia 803 1.87%
3. Canada 642 1.5%
4. South Africa 341 0.79%
5. UK 301 0.7%
6. Germany 227 0.53%
7. Japan 219 0.51%
8. Netherlands 218 0.5%
9. Brazil 171 0.39%
10. Italy 148 0.34%
11. New Zealand 132 0.3%
12. France 118 0.27%
13. Ireland 108 0.25%
14. Russian Federation 99 0.23%
15. Qatar 93 0.21%



## Stockyard Upgrades

by John Carty

I model the East St. Louis region in the mid 1950's. The town of National City occupies a portion of this area with the National Stockyards along with several meatpacking plants. Although I lack the space to model the stockyards in its entirety, much less the adjacent packing plants, I wanted to include National City on my layout. To this end I built two meatpacking plants along with two low-relief meatpacking plants (perhaps they specialize in lean meat). In order to supply the packers with material, I needed a place to receive animals. Walther's Stock Yard kit fit the bill nicely, but required a little dressing up.

I started by assembly the kit according to the directions. Since I intended to



include sheep and pigs along with the requisite cattle, I included shelters over two of the pens in the kit for hogs. This provided two sheltered pens and four pens open to the elements. Before completing assembly by installing the gates and roof, I sprayed the pens and ground as well as the gates with inexpensive walnut pigmented gloss enamel. I followed this with a misting of flat black to deaden the shine of the gloss and give the wooden parts the appearance of creosote. After the paint dried, I finished assembling the kit.

Since the soil in the yard would not be black, I mixed brown and tan acrylic craft paint, thinning the concoction with rubbing alcohol. I did not mix the paint thoroughly. I covered the ground in the pens and chutes with this wash and allowed it to dry. I then weathered the entire stockyard with acrylic paints dry brushed and washes.

Next, I assembled water troughs for each pen from strip styrene. Each trough stands about two feet tall. The troughs for the larger pens measure about a scale two feet by ten feet, while the smaller pens received troughs measuring one and one half by seven scale feet. The exact dimensions are not as important as the presence of a watering container in each pen. I sprayed the troughs with gray primer and washed them with a mixture of tan and gray. I then bent fill pipes for each trough and sprayed them flat black to simulate black iron pipes. I glued the troughs into each pen. I then drilled a hole in the base at one end of each trough and inserted the pipe, which I glued from the bottom. This job would have been much easier if I had done it before attaching the roofs.

### Materials Required:

Atlas: Sheep  
Acrylic Craft Paint:  
Tan, Brown, Gray  
Boley: White pigs with black spots  
Spray Enamel:  
Walnut, Flat Black, Gray Primer  
Walther's Cornerstone Stock Yard kit  
Cattle

Ground cover presented a quandary. I attempted to cut twine and apply that as straw, but the results left much to be desired. I put the question on the back burner for a few days. While cleaning out the pencil sharpener at work I realized that the pencil shavings might just provide the texture I sought. I bagged the contents of the sharpener and took them home. After sitting a day or two, I spread white glued thinned with an equal amount of water in each pen and chute and sprinkled shavings over the glue. The time the shavings sat allowed me to apply just shavings and little graphite. After the

glue had dried for a day I turned the stockyard over a wastebasket to remove excess shavings.

Now was the time to add animals. I painted three sets of Walther's cattle. Two coats of antique white acrylic craft paint provided a base color. I then painted about half the cattle brown, both solid and spotted. About half of the rest received tan paint, while the balance received black. I purchased a set of Atlas sheep and found them much too white. To rectify this, I applied a coat of antique white to the sheep as well. I also purchased several sets of white pigs with black spots produced by Boley. Since the spots were glossy, I sprayed the hogs with Testor's Dull Cote.

After removing the sheep from their bases, I glued a dozen in one pen. Next, I glued the pigs in the two pens with cover. The cattle then occupied the remaining three pens. For the most part, I tried to put an odd number of animals in each pen, since this tends to make the exact number less obvious. Preiser figures were then added to complete the scene. Altogether, I was quite pleased with these simple sprucing up of the Walther's Stock Yard. Although I may yet add a shack for the workers, at least the stock cars have a destination on my layout.





# NMRA/NRHA Tour of QSME Layout

by Joe Obernuefemann



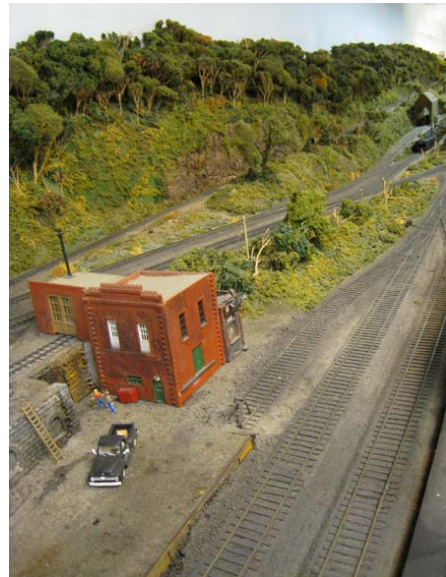
The joint venture between St. Louis Chapter National Railway Historical Society and the Gateway Division National Model Railroad Association on Saturday, March 28, 2009, was organized by Ron Gawedzinski.

The event took us to Quincy, Illinois, to see and operate trains on the Quincy Society of Model Engineers "Chesapeake & Lake Erie RR" HO layout.



We met at Cassano's Restaurant for a delicious lunch, and then proceeded to the Good Samaritan Home where the QSME has operations set up in a basement room.

The layout is very large, about 16 ft. wide by 70 ft. long, beautifully landscaped, with many fine crafted structures, good running track work and challenging freight yards. All trains were operated by Digitrax DCC system



and operations were directed by the dispatcher, through radios, who monitored track occupancy via a

computer and lined turnouts from his control panel.

The QSME members were great hosts and as happy to see us there as we were to be there. They normally operate on three Fridays a month from switch lists generated by computer software. Many thanks to the Quincy Society of Model Engineers for their great hospitality and the fun we had – Ed Dietrich, Jack Doran, Mike Fletcher, Jeff Heinie, Eric Kinneer, Brian Klein, Ben Kuhn, Hank Murray, Gary Roe and Larry Stoll!



The weather was great for this adventure; it rained most of the trip to Quincy, while we were there, and all the way home. Couldn't do anything outside but get wet, good day to run trains. I took the Illinois route to

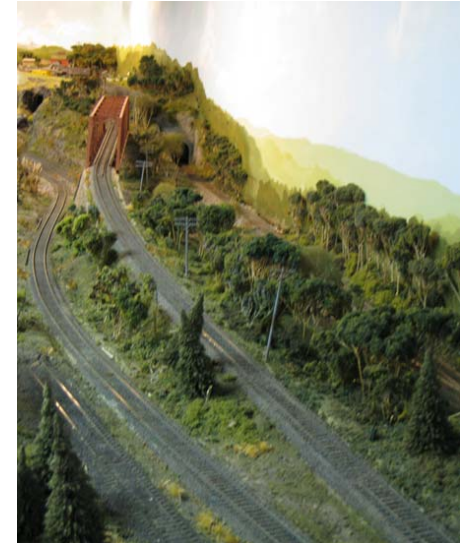


Quincy, crossing the swollen Illinois River on the Brussels Ferry, then over the hill to the Mississippi at Harden to

drive the Mississippi River Road until I got to Highway 96. On the way back, I used Highway 106 to Detroit, Ill., then south on Route 100, crossing the swollen Illinois River on the Kampsville Ferry, providing a variety of scenery in each direction.



The members and guests from NRHS and NMRA included: Jim Anderson, Don and Ramona Ayres, Dave Berner, Bob Blasiesing, Ron Gawedzinski, Hank Kraichely, Dale Loyet, Dave Lyon, Rich Melka, Gregor Moe, Joe Obernuefemann, Brian Post, George Schaub, Tim Stout and Jack Stroker.







## Upcoming Events

•\*AUG 1, 2009—TURKEY CREEK DIV MEET, Lenexa Community Center, 13420 Oak, Lenexa, KS 66215, 9:30-3:30, Advance Registration \$4, Day of the Show \$6 (\$5 NMRA Member). Activities Clinic, Model & Photo Contest, Swap Tables around 90 cost \$15 each, Home Layouts nine or more, and Door Prizes. Registration forms may be found on the web site. Wheelchair Accessible, Info: Louis Seibel, Show Chairman at l-seibel@comcast.net, www.tc-nmra.org

•\*SEP 12, 2009-- BOEING EMPLOYEES RAILROAD SWAP MEET. St. Louis, MO-10 am—3 pm, Greensfelder Recreation Complex at Queeny Park, 550 Wiedman Rd., St. Louis, MO 63011, Adm: \$3 children under 12 free w/pd adult, doors open for sellers setup at 8 am, Tables (30"x96") \$15.00, Info: Wayne Schimmel, VP/Swap Meet Conductor, Boeing Employee's Railroad Club, St. Louis, MO, wwhtehse@aol.com or call after 6:30 pm 636-668-6313 or mail: 733 Hwy Y, Winfield, MO 63389-2206.

•\*SEP 25-27, 2009-- LAYOUT DESIGN AND OPERATIONS WEEKEND 2009, Tulsa, OK, Indian Nations Division of the NMRA, In conjunction with the LDSIG and OPSIG, Hardesty Library 8316 E. 93rd St., (Just East of Memorial on 93rd St.) Tulsa, Oklahoma; Registration will be limited to 200. Don't miss out! Local layout operating sessions: Friday September 25th from 7pm-10pm and Sunday morning September 27th from 10am to 1pm. (Out of town and first time operators get preference, register early to secure a spot on one of the layouts!) Workshop presentations Saturday by Paul J. Dolkos, Marty McGuirk, and Keith Jordan. Bring your track plans, photos, display boards and mockups to share and solicit feedback on your layout! Conclude the day with layout open houses from 6pm to 10pm Info: www.tulsanmra.org; for registration questions email: ldopregistration@tulsanmra.org

If you want to operate email: ldopoperations@tulsanmra.org

Early bird registration before August 25th, 2009 is \$15.00 after that the registration is \$20.00

•\*NOV 7, 2009—GATEWAY DIVISION MEET, Trinity Lutheran Church, 14088 Clayton Road, Chesterfield, MO 63017. More information to follow in the next RPO!

## Division Minutes

*recorded by Don Ayers, Clerk*

### Gateway Division Meeting Minutes for January 19, 2009

#### CLINIC

Our planned clinician took ill prior to the meeting and wasn't able to attend. In his place, members viewed parts of 2 commercially available DVD's. Phil Bonzon brought in a video of the Buffalo Creek and Gauley Railroad as modeled by Brooks Stover. Brian Post sent a video "Street Running in HO scale on the City Edge Layout", as modeled by Victor Smith. Thanks to Phil and Brian for coming through at the last minute!

#### BUSINESS MEETING

The Superintendent called the meeting to order at 8:12 PM. There were 22 members present and no guests.

#### Minutes of the February Meeting

The minutes were approved with corrections. Corrected minutes are published in our quarterly publication, the RPO.

#### Treasurers Report

Dave presented the monthly report and highlighted an interest deposit. A 6 month CD had paid out. Also, the purchase of the wheelsets was paid for this month, and items for this month's planned clinic were purchased. Jim asked about dues (mailing fee). Hank again made the pitch for members to "go electronic". No other questions. Treasurer's report approved.

#### Merchandise Report

Tim received most of the wheelsets that were ordered from Intermountain. All "N" scale wheelsets are spoken for. The rest are on backorder.

#### RPO Report

Mike Thomas was not present. He is always looking for submissions.

#### Directors Report

Jim reminded everyone that the Regional Convention is getting closer. They are still hoping to add clinicians. See Announcements below.

#### Achievement Program (AP) Report

Don Taschner presented to Phil Bonzon his Golden Spike and Motive Power certificates. The Golden Spike had been lost in the mail and had to be reissued by NMRA. Phil is continuing to work on Civil Engineer, Author, and Cars.

Bob Amsler mentioned that NMRA was considering changes to the AP program. Watch for further developments.

#### Monthly Meeting Clinician Report

Tim is working with Brian Post to put together a decoder installation clinic that would be led by Brian. Members would bring in a locomotive, decoder, and other materials and install their own decoder as Brian oversees. Tim had a signup sheet available.

#### Old Business

Hank offered the membership the opportunity to vote on the DPM kit that will be the subject of future meetings. He has negotiated with DPM to get these kits at 40% off! Dave Roeder will have a completed kit at the May meeting to provide inspiration. Hank agreed to e-mail the membership as soon as a particular kit is selected. Hank was asked to check into getting the same kit in other scales, specifically N scale. He will check. AP judging was offered by Rick Lake.

Hank reminded all to think about any "white elephant" items they might want to donate to the Division. These items would then be sold to benefit the Division's treasury at the Fall Meet. Hank pointed out that any donation would be tax deductible and offered to provide a letter to authenticate the donation.

Ron reminded members about upcoming activities:

1. Operate on the Society of Model Engineers HO scale layout in Quincy, IL. This is set for Sat, Mar 28.
2. Visit, tour, and ride on a historic Illinois Central coach at the Monticello Railway Museum in Monticello, IL. The combined group will charter a bus for the trip. Trip cost is \$53. This trip will occur on the 2nd of May. Seventeen have signed up already. More seats are available! A cab ride in the Wabash F7 may also be available.
3. Another joint picnic at WF+P location is being planned on 19Sep.

#### New Business

Venita Lake asked if it was possible to receive the RPO by mail, but opt out of receiving the monthly meeting announcements. E-mail the clerk (see above) if you want to do this. Venita, and presumably Rich, are on (off?) the list! Closed.

The city of Maryland Heights has contacted us about building a model railroad that they would display in Feb of 2010. Hank responded that we may have an interest and asked them several questions. More to come.

Ron Gawedzinski made a motion that the Division buy some speakers for the Division PC. Hank, Don, and Venita all thought that they might have some to loan to the Division for use at Division events. More next month.

#### Announcements

Bob Amsler wants to host in his home a group of individuals who are interested in teaming together to earn one or more AP certificates. See his column in the latest RPO. E-mail Bob if you are interested. ramsler@charter.net

Hank thanked Rich Laux for providing refreshments at the last 2 years or so worth of meetings on the west side.

Walters has begun carrying Lionel items, Ron G. said.

Herald- King decals are back in production according to Ron Kraus.

#### Perpetual Announcements:

The Chisholm Trail Division will host the MCoR Regional Convention in Wichita, KS, 12 – 14 Jun, 2009.

The NMRA National Convention will be in Hartford, CT, 5 – 12 July, 2009.

Gateway Division Fall Meet, 7 Nov, 2009 (plan your clinic to present!)

30th Annual National Narrow Gauge Convention will be held in St Louis in 2010.

The 75th NMRA Convention will be held in Milwaukee next year (2010).

**50/50** – Thirty dollars was collected. Bill Birdsell won the drawing and took home \$15. Ticket sales were really enhanced during the clinic presentation when Microsoft decided that, in the middle of our video presentation, it would be a great time to update the Division's laptop computer! Thanks, Bill Gates!

#### Adjournment

Rich Lake made the motion to adjourn at 9:02. Gregor Moe seconded.

Respectfully Submitted, Don Ayres, Gateway Division Clerk

## Gateway Division Director's Report For The June 2009 MCOR BOD Meeting

by Jim Anderson: Gateway Division Director

### I. General Comments

The Division continues to meet on a rotating basis between the VFW Hall in O'Fallon, IL and Trinity Church in Chesterfield, MO. The average monthly attendance continues to hold in the 25-40 range. Meeting announcements are communicated by postcard to members who are current with their annual \$5/year (up from \$3/year) subscription fees or via e-mail to members who prefer this method of communication. Meeting info is also posted on the Gateway Division website which is [www.gatewaynmra.org](http://www.gatewaynmra.org).

### II. Division Monthly Meetings

-January: "DVD presentation on the history of the Wabash, Frisco, and Pacific RR (Dave Neubauer; member of the WF and P RR and the STL chapter of the NRHS)

-February: "Member Slide Night, open clinic"

-March: Two commercially available DVD's were shown. "Buffalo Creek and Gauley RR" (Phil Bronzon) and "Street running in HO scale on the City Edge Layout" (Brian Post).

-April: "Passenger Train Operations" (Curt Regensberger).

-May: (1). "Weathering Model RR Cars" (Greg Gray) & (2). "Distribution of DPM Building Kit to all meeting attendees". The kit was funded by the Division. Members are required to display their completed kits at the September Meeting.

-June: "How to install DCC decoders in locomotives" (Brian Post)

### III. 2009 Fall Meet

The annual Fall Meet is scheduled for Saturday November 7 at Trinity Church. Details will be forthcoming later.

### IV. AP Activity

AP activity was very light in the first 6 months of 2009.

- 1 Golden Spike award
- 1 Motive Power AP award

### V. Membership Activity

Our Division continues to be challenged to retain existing members and keeping them active in Division programs as well as adding new members. Recent membership data includes the following: 123 CK subscribers, 256 active NMRA members, 458 inactive members for a total of 714 in the Gateway Division territory. Within these totals are 56 Gateway members who are current with their \$5/year subscription fees. There are currently 90 members on our e-mail list who receive the monthly meeting notice over the internet. Efforts are continuing to update the data base for this activity.

Other activities have been done to promote the hobby and increase membership

a. Periodic layout tours on specific dates to visit Division member layouts.

b. Joint tour with the local NRHS chapter to the Monticello Railroad Museum

c. Operating session at the Quincy Society of Model Engineers in Quincy, IL.

Mike Thomas continues to do an excellent job as the Editor of the Division publication the RPO. Mike is always looking for article to publish so any MCOR member that would be interested please contact Mike.

The Gateway Division website, managed by Richard Schumacher, continues to be very busy, Stats for the month of April include the following:

- Hits for entire site: 2,233,842(74,461 per day)
- Visits: 51,150(1705 per day)
- Page views: 75,224(2507 per day)
- Search engine referrals: 12,279

### VI. Officers/Department Chairs 2009

Superintendent: Hank Kraichely  
Assistant Superintendent: Tim Stout  
Division Director: Jim Anderson  
Paymaster: Dave Lyon  
Clerk/Secretary: Don Ayers  
Membership Chairman: Hank Kraichely  
Monthly E-mail Notice Manager: Don Head  
AP Chairman: Don Taschner  
RPO Editor: Mike Thomas  
Website Manager: Richard Schumacher

## AAA Transfer

photo by Phil Bonzon





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## 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 \$48 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](http://www.gatewaynmra.org)

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

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## Division Officers

**Superintendent**  
Hank Kraichely

**Assistant Superintendent**  
Tim Stout

**Clerk (Secretary)**  
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**Paymaster (Treasurer)**  
Dave Lyon

**Division Director**  
Jim Anderson

