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Inside: Building City Streets  
Using Walthers Cornerstone Street Systems

# RPO

Winter 2006: Volume 13, Number 4

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

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## On the Cover

Photo by Mike Thomas

The fireman hauls the spout over to fill the tank on Great Central Railway engine No 4141, a 2-6-2T, outside the engine shed at Loughborough, Leicestershire, England, before it takes the next passenger run to Leicester. A trip on the Great Central was part of the 2004 NMRA British Region convention.

## Coming Next Issue (?)

Cover photo?

Product review?

Layout update?

Club news?

What will be in the next issue depends entirely on what you submit.

## Gateway Division Clinicians Wanted

We always need clinics for upcoming meetings. If you know something other people don't then you're qualified to conduct a clinic. And if you don't think you can fill an hour, we can pair you up with another short clinic for the evening. We especially need more hands-on how-to modeling workshops and more in-depth prototype clinics.

Call Bill Levin at 314-878-2119

[wmlbill@yahoo.com](mailto:wmlbill@yahoo.com)

## Building City Streets Using Walters Cornerstone Street Systems

By Venita Lake

The Gateway Division has used the Walters Cornerstone street systems on several of its annual project layouts and the project we built for the History Museum. These kits are available in red brick (933-3139) or concrete (933-3138) for a list price of \$12.98 and are

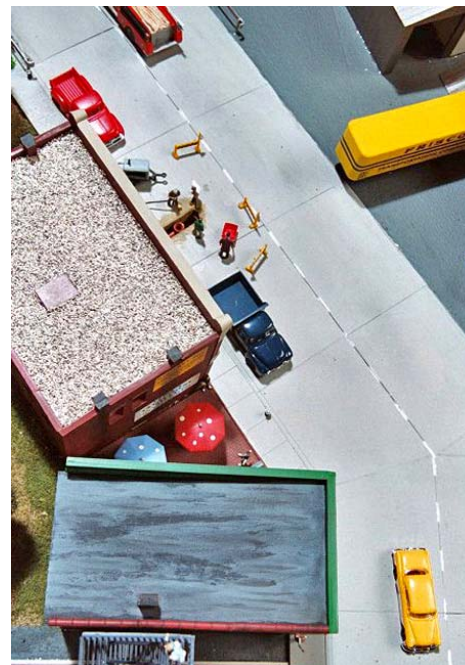


photo of History Museum layout by Richard Schumacher

sections of street and sidewalks with curbs that can be arranged in a various configurations to fit a city scene. In HO scale, they contain approximately 25 linear inches of roadway in 10

interlocking straight sections that are 3 5/8" long and 2 3/4" wide. Two widths are joined by a straight riser, which forms a center crown in the roadway. In addition, four 3 5/8" x 3 5/8" sections can be used to create a four-way intersection. Two curb cuts, one for a driveway and one for an alley, two quarter circle street sections and matching sidewalks, and manhole covers, sewer grates, and fire hydrants complete the kit. A separate set of straight sections containing only 8 sections of streets with corresponding set of curbs is also available (concrete, 933-3155; brick, 933-3156 @ \$11.98). In addition, street track inserts sized for code 83 track including straight sections as well as pieces for 15, 18 and 22" radius curves and parts for #4 and 18" turnouts (933-3140 @ \$15.98) and grade crossings (933-3137 @ \$6.98) complete the city look.

Directions and drawings for assembling the streets and sidewalks are minimal, but relatively easy to follow. Parts should be separated from the sprues, cleaned of any remaining plastic flash, and test fitted.

As with most Cornerstone kits, painting is not necessary but appearances are greatly improved by painting and/or weathering. The brick streets improve greatly with just a wash of India ink diluted with alcohol. Use your own judgment about when to paint, either before assembling the pieces or later in the project. With our project layouts we were able to turn the whole layout vertically and paint and weather the assembled streets, a luxury you may not have with a home layout. Careful gluing after painting individual pieces or

air brushing assembled sections of street may be more successful.

Thought must be given to how buildings and track fit in with the streets. It is a question of what comes first. For the History Museum project, we had an intersection of concrete

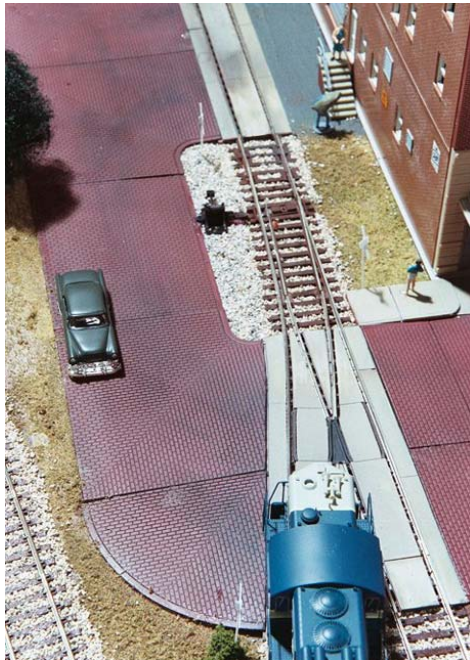


photo of History Museum layout by Richard Schumacher

roadway, brick industrial streets or alleys near the track, streets crossing the tracks in several places, and a street going downhill below the railroad underpass. For this project, we started with the four-way intersection where placement was determined by the large buildings and the extensions to cross the tracks on three sides of the layout. The fourth direction going toward the underpass required that the top of the hill would start at the joint between two sections of the road. We did not try cutting sections for this joint. This product probably would not work well

with a lot of up and down terrain and one must be careful about creating unrealistic steep gradients.

We worked from the intersection toward the track and cut the sections of street adjacent to the track to fit. The street sections can be cut with plastic "nippers" and then filed or sanded.

All of the street sections were test fitted and decisions were made about where manhole covers and sewer grates would be installed. Openings must be cut into the street so that manhole covers can be inserted from the bottom side. Both the road and the curb are cut to install sewer grates. Fire hydrants can be glued in later but drilling may be easier at this stage.

The kit directions recommend using a plastic cement to glue the plastic together. We found that it worked well to glue the road halves to the risers and where possible to glue several segments together before attempting to attach them to the layout. Diagrams and individual pieces should be carefully studied to fit them together properly *before* applying the glue. There are tabs on the road segments to make them fit snugly. Street pieces have a center side and a curb side. Sidewalks and curbs must fit together the proper way to provide the largest surface for glue. Sidewalks also should be assembled into larger sections and may be painted and weathered or ink washed before they are attached to the street sections and glued down to the layout.

The street sections can be glued down with a slow drying epoxy or a white

glue like Weld Bond that will allow time to move pieces if necessary. We used a generous amount of caulked construction glue to grip the street pieces that are cupped for the center crown.



photo of Gateway Central X by Richard Schumacher

After the streets and sidewalks are installed, additional weathering down the center of traffic lanes, center lines, railroad crossing warnings painted on the pavement, stop signs or traffic lights, pedestrian crossing lines, and corner mail boxes are details that bring the city street scene to life.

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## February 2006

## Web Site Statistics

Webmaster Richard Schumacher reports that the Gateway Division's website, [www.gatewaynmra.org](http://www.gatewaynmra.org), continues to be our main point of

contact with the general public. More than 2,000 people look at one or more pages of the website each day. For the month of February the stats are:

- Hits for Entire Site 2,830,271
- Page Views 92,990 (about 3,321 per day)
- Visits 65,669 (about 2,345 per day)
- Total Transfer 22,155,182KB
- Search Engine Referrals 14,015

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## Division Minutes

*Recorded by the Division Clerk*

### Gateway Division Meeting Minutes for October 17, 2005

The meeting was called to order by Superintendent Mike Thomas at 7:02 PM. Thomas introduced Carl Wessel, who presented a clinic entitled Building Light Rail in Minneapolis. The membership thanks Carl for his presentation.

#### Business Meeting

The meeting was called to order by Superintendent Thomas at 8:15 PM.

#### **Visitors:**

There were no new members or visitors in attendance.

#### **Minutes of the September Meeting:**

The minutes of the September Meeting were distributed. The minutes were accepted as presented.

#### **Treasurer's Report:**

Printed copies of the one month treasures report (September 19th through October 16th, 2005) were distributed. The report indicated a balance in all funds of \$28,501.21. The report was accepted without discussion.

#### **Directors Report:**

Jim Anderson did not have a report. The next MoCor meeting will be held January 2006.

### Old Business:

**AP Awards** – No report.

**Merchandise** – Hank Kraichely reported that Inter Mountain would be making HO, HO Semi Scale, O, and the N scale wheel sets available all for the same price. HO Scale wheel sets in the 33", 36", and Semi Scale sizes will be sold for \$6.00 a pack. N Scale and O Scale packages will be sold for \$5.00. The retail price for the N and O scale packages are normally \$7.95. The HO packages are normally \$9.95. The O Scale packages only contain 4 wheel sets. The original purchase authorization was for 1200 wheel sets. This number is no longer valid and a motion was made by Ron Kraus and seconded by Gregor Moe to increase the order to 1200 sets in HO scale plus the 45 N scale packages already on order. Superintendent Thomas thanked Hank for his work in behalf of the Division.

**RPO** – Superintendent Thomas reported that Venita Lake has received the disk for the next issue of the RPO on this meeting date. The issue will be taken to the printer on Tuesday, October 18th, and should be and will be mailed by Monday, October 24.

**Elections** – Superintendent Thomas reported that the ballot for officers for 2006 will be enclosed with the RPO. We do not have a full slate of officers. Bob Boedges is running for Superintendent. Bill Levin is running for Assistant Superintendent. Dave Lyon is running for Treasurer. Ron Gawedzinski is running for Clerk. No one has volunteered to run for Director for the Illinois portion of the Gateway Division. This Director would serve as a representative on the Mid Continent Region Board. The position will be available only as a "write in" vote, and only Illinois members are allowed to vote for this office.

**Fall Meet** - Superintendent Thomas reported that the Fall Meet of the Gateway Division would be held on Saturday, November 5, 2005. Fall meet flyers will be included with the RPO. Additional flyers which were to be distributed to various Hobby Shops were not available at the meeting. Hank Kraichely encouraged all of the members to attend the meet, and to help with the variety of jobs that are available including sales of tickets, door prizes, registration and clean up. Jim Anderson asked for help with set up on the Friday preceding the event at 3:00 PM.

**Project Layout** – Superintendent Thomas reported that the current "Project Layout" has been making money "hand over fist." He also reported that Bob Boedges and Mike Satke will be supervising construction of the new layout for the 2005 – 2006 season. Bob will be chairing the

project in HO Scale. Some concern was voiced that the wiring for the current layout had been modified for the September meeting clinic. Bob Boedges assured the members that the modifications would be changed back to the original configuration, and that the layout would be fully operational.

### New Business:

No new business was presented.

### Announcements:

**Switch List MoCor** – Superintendent Thomas announced that he had copies of the MoCor Switch List for the next three or four months available at the meeting. Members are welcome to take a copy.

**University of Missouri St. Louis** – UMSL has announced a course entitled "Railroads In American Life" would be offered during the Spring Semester beginning in January of 2006. Tuition for the class on a non-credit basis is \$160.00. Credit tuition would be \$800.00. Non-credit tuition is the same for Illinois resident.

**The New Yorker Magazine** - The Magazine has a two part article by John McFee on hauling coal from the Powder River Basin to the Mid-West and South. Superintendent Thomas recommended the articles and suggested the membership read the October 3rd and October 10th issues.

**Holiday Party** – Will be held at 7:00 PM on Monday, November 14, 2005 at Trinity Lutheran Church. Ron Gawedzinski will be presenting another virtual tour of his latest rail adventure.

**Project Layout Dates** – There was some discussion of future dates for displaying the layout and the replacement for the GATS show. A calendar of future dates will be developed.

### **50/50:**

The drawing was won by Hank Kraichely.

**Adjournment** - A motion to adjourn was made by someone and approved by a voice vote of the membership.

**Attendance** – There were 13 members in attendance.

Respectfully Submitted

Robert J. Boedges, Clerk

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## Gateway Meeting Minutes for December 19, 2005

The meeting was called to order by Superintendent Mike Thomas at 7:00 PM. Thomas introduced Ty Treutelaar who presented a clinic on Modeling Water. The membership thanks Ty for his presentation.

### Business Meeting:

The business meeting was called to order by Superintendent Thomas at 8:05 PM.

**Visitors:** There were no new members or visitors in attendance.

### Minutes of the September Meeting:

The minutes of the September Meeting were distributed. The minutes were accepted as presented.

### Treasurer's Report:

Printed copies of two months of treasurers reports (October 17 through November 12, and November 13 through December 18, 2005) were distributed. The December report indicated a balance in all funds of \$28,154.39. The December report also contained an Income/Expense Report on the 2005 Project Layout, and a Financial Summary of the Fall Meet. The reports were accepted without discussion.

### Fall Meet Report:

Hank Kraichely reported on the success of the Fall Meet. He reported that we had the highest attendance to date at this year's meet in spite of less pre-event publicity. He also suggested that we create a "kids friendly" area at future meets. He expressed a major concern with the difficulty of getting clinicians for the event. Superintendent Thomas pointed out that we did not have a full slate of clinicians for the day.

Vendors seemed to be pleased both with their sales, and the attendance. After some discussion it was decided to keep the vendor table price at \$15.00.

Discussion was initiated by Ron Kraus concerning the Division balance in the treasury. He expressed the concern that with such a substantial balance, no increases in attendance or vendor fees were required.

**Directors Report:** No report.

### Old Business:

**Merchandise** – Hank Kraichely distributed a printed summary of the special orders for wheel sets that he has received. Since all of the N Scale sets he has were on special order he asked if we should purchase more sets to keep in inventory. He also checked for interest in "near scale" sets, and 36" sets. The order will be placed during the week of December 17th.

**RPO** - The winter edition of the RPO was mailed with the officers ballots. No problems have been reported. The next issue will be available soon, but a date has not been announced. Thomas will be the new RPO editor after the completion of his term as Superintendent.

**Project Layout** – Bob Boedges reported that Dale Talbott won the 2005 layout. The new layout is 99% finished. The new layout is much more expensive than last year due to fewer items contributed. Also the first show was not as financially productive as The Worlds Greatest Hobby show last year. As a result, profit on this years layout may be less than last year. The layout is scheduled to be on display at shows in St. Charles, Dupo, and at the Boeing show in March. The March venue will probably be changed to the Collinsville show. Volunteers to assist with ticket sales at the St. Charles and Dupo shows will be solicited at the next regular meeting. Ron Kraus requested that information about volunteer opportunities be posted on the web site.

### New Business:

**Elections** – Superintendent Thomas reported 46 ballots were returned by the membership. The following officers were elected unanimously by the 46 voting members:

Bob Boedges – Superintendent  
Bill Levin – Assistant Superintendent  
Dave Lyon – Treasurer  
Ron Gawedzinski – Clerk

One write-in vote was received for Brad Joseph to be the Illinois Director to the MoCor Board. Brad has already declined to serve. A second write-in vote was received for Scott Milick. He declined to serve when he was told what the job included. As a result the position of Illinois Director is still not filled.

A motion to destroy the ballots was made by Richard Lake and Seconded by Gregor Moe. The motion was passed by voice vote of the membership. John Schindler voted no.

**Data Projector:** Superintendent Thomas reported that the Division Data Projector is not

functional and that a new bulb did not take care of the problem. He will contact the Dell Company to find out about repair.

**Volunteer Opportunities:** The region is looking for a Division to host both the 2007 and 2008 Conventions. The Gateway Division could take on this responsibility for either of the two years. John Schindler, the chairman of the last regional meet, indicated that before we consider hosting another event MoCor should consider a change of the date to some time other than the summer months. He also suggested that the meeting be moved to the winter season. Anderson indicated that the item will be on the agenda for the next MoCor meeting. Schindler also indicated that we needed to be sure to use a facility which would not be tied to hotel room rentals. He suggested that we might consider combining our fall meet with our regional meet. Additional discussion involved dropping the train show portion of the convention and increasing the number of clinics. No action was taken on this item.

#### Announcements:

**Clinics:** Bill Levin indicated once again that clinicians are needed.

**50/50:** The \$20.00 prize was won by someone.

**Adjournment** - A motion to adjourn was made by someone and approved by a voice vote of the membership.

**Attendance** – There were 23 members in attendance.

Respectfully Submitted

Robert J. Boedges, Clerk

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## Gateway Meeting Minutes for January 16, 2006

#### Business Meeting

Superintendent Robert Boedges called the meeting to order at 7 PM. There were 31 members and one guest present.

#### **Visitors:**

The Division welcomes guest Pete Nathan.

#### **Minutes of the December 2005 Meeting:**

The minutes of the December 2005 Meeting were distributed. The minutes were accepted as presented.

#### **Treasurer's Report:**

Printed copies of the one-month Treasurer's Report (December 19, 2005 through January 15, 2006) were distributed by David Lyon, our Treasurer. The report indicated a balance in all funds of \$26,400.29. The report was accepted without discussion.

#### **Director's Report:**

Jim Anderson reported that so far there were no Divisions volunteering to sponsor Mid-Continent Region (MCOR) conventions for the years 2007 and 2008.

Jim stated that nominations for the annual MCOR Larry Long Award could still be made to him before the end of January. This is an award given to a MCOR Division member who has performed exceptional work at the Division level.

Jim also mentioned that the MCOR Region Convention for this year would be held at Council Bluffs, Iowa, June 1 – 4, 2006. It promises to be a very entertaining time. Full registration will only be \$35 per person through April 15, and \$45 thereafter. You can visit the Railswest Railroad Museum. Layout Tours, Prototype Tours, Clinics and Contests will also be available. (Note: Another reason to go is to visit the Union Pacific Museum, Council Bluffs, Iowa, in the former Carnegie Library building. See Trains magazine, February 2006, pages 34 – 37.)

#### Old Business:

**Thanks To Mike Thomas** – New Superintendent Robert Boedges thanked the outgoing Superintendent Mike Thomas for his hard work and contributions to the Division. The membership recognized his efforts with a round of applause.

**Status Of The RPO** – Superintendent Robert Boedges stated that Mike Thomas will be the new Editor of the Division's RPO, our quarterly publication. Mike will replace Richard Schumacher. Richard will get the forthcoming issue mailed shortly. In the meantime, members are asked to send articles, photos and any other materials for publication in the next RPO to Mike.

**Merchandise** – Hank Kraichely reported that the latest order of wheel sets was placed three weeks ago. The order should be arriving soon.

**Project Layout XIII (13)** – Superintendent Robert Boedges brought the new layout to the meeting for members to see. He and Mike Satke have been the major workers on the layout. Robert said what the layout needs most now are people figures and vehicles. If any member wishes to contribute these items it would be appreciated.

Robert said a special thanks goes to Richard Schumacher for giving lots of rolling stock to use on the layout. The layout will be taken to the St. Charles Train Show on January 21 and the Dupo Train Show on February 11. The costs of this layout have been higher this time and we did not have added revenue from ticket sales from a big World's Greatest Hobby Show like we did for the previous layout.

**Achievement Program (AP)** – Don Taschner reported awards of merit were achieved by Randy Meyer for Structures, Jeremy Janzen for Passenger Cars, Dave Roeder for Structures and Don Taschner for Motive Power. Congratulations to our fellow members! Don encourages the rest of us to keep submitting our applications to him. He'll be glad to give advice and direction.

#### New Business:

**Calendar** – Superintendent Robert Boedges made available to the members a "Calendar 2006" of events covering dates and times of meetings and train shows. This will be a great help for remembering events.

**Information Items** – Membership Chairperson Duties – Superintendent Boedges clarified the distinction of duties involving Hank Kraichely and Dave Lyon. Hank is the Membership Chairperson whereas Dave keeps track of the publication fee in his position as Treasurer. Full membership lists, correspondence, recruitment and dealing with the NMRA is Hank's job.

#### **Division Convention & Meeting Display**

**Project** – Superintendent Boedges reported that Bill Levin (Chair) and Dave Lyon (Co-Chair) will investigate the present day effectiveness of the Division Display kiosk used at conventions and train shows. They will determine if we should use what we own or buy new. They will also address the content of the kiosk.

#### **Division Equipment Inventory Project**

Superintendent Boedges stated Dick Wegner along with Jim Anderson will inventory all the Division's known property. This will include signs, easels, electronic equipment, convention items, project layout items and office supplies. If any member has an item or items of Division property please contact Dick or Jim.

**RPO** – Superintendent Boedges announced that Mike Thomas would be the new Editor of the Division's RPO, our quarterly publication. Mike will replace Richard Schumacher. The Division membership wants to thank Richard Schumacher for his hard work and contributions to the RPO as Editor.

**Fall 2006 Meet** – Superintendent Boedges said he appointed himself as Chairperson for the Division's Fall 2006 Meet. Bill Levin will take care of the Clinics. Members are encouraged to volunteer for other jobs that need to be filled. Please contact Bob Boedges.

#### **Special Layout Project – Kirkwood Station**

Superintendent Boedges stated he had been contacted by the head of the volunteer program at Kirkwood Station about the feasibility of the Division building a model railroad layout in the Station. Discussion took place on items such as type and size of layout, operational capabilities and who would maintain it. Bob said he would look into the matter further.

**Clinic Discussion** – Bill Levin, Assistant Superintendent, who heads the Division's monthly clinic program, spoke about the need for more members to participate in the program if it is to continue. He described simple ways to approach it. He handed out a list of Meeting Topics for members to look at and vote on the top 11 topics of interest. Members then returned the votes to him during the meeting.

**50/50:** Irwin Kuehling won \$18 in the drawing.

**Adjournment** - A motion to adjourn was made by Mike Satke, seconded by Tom Bousman and approved by a voice vote of the membership.

**A Membership Swap Meet** followed the business meeting, with lots of stuff to sell or trade

Respectfully Submitted

Ron W. Gawedzinski, Clerk

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## Division Director's Report as submitted to the January 2006 MCoR BOD Meeting

by Jim Anderson  
Gateway Division Director

#### I. General Comments

The Division continues to average monthly meeting attendance in the 30-50 range with the monthly meetings rotating between the VFW hall in O'Fallon, IL and Trinity church in Chesterfield, MO. Meeting announcements are communicated via post cards to members who have paid their publication fee, the Division RPO newsletter, and the Division website which is [www.gatewaynmra.org](http://www.gatewaynmra.org).

## II. Division Monthly Meetings/Clinics

Clinics and topics for the June through December period are listed below:

- June: "NMRA AP Program Review"(Don Taschner)
- July: "Making a Good Model Better"(Dale Dewitt)
- August: "Planning and Designing Layouts Using 3rd Plan IT"(Chris Zygmunt)
- September: "Setting up Operations on a Small Layout"(John Schindler)
- October: "Building Light Rail in Minneapolis"(Carl Wessel)
- November: "The Annual Division Holiday Party Including VHS Presentation"
- December: "Techniques and Tips For Modeling Water"(Ty Treutelaar)

## III. Fund Raisers

The Gateway XII project layout was awarded at the Gateway Fall Meet on 11/05/05. The layout was exhibited at several area train shows throughout 2005. Net profit from the year long raffle ticket sales was @\$1700.

The annual Fall Meet was held at Trinity church on November 5. The meet consisted of several clinics, dealer tables, operating layouts etc. attendance was over 350. Net income was @\$950.

Other products being sold by the Division include Gary Hoover box cars and HO scale metal wheel sets.

## IV. NMRA AP Award Status

Don Taschner, the Division AP Chair, reported the following awards(type and number):

- 2 Cars Merit Awards
- 2 Motive Power Merit Awards
- 2 Structures Merit awards
- 1 Car Master Builder Award

## V. Membership Activity

The Division continues to struggle a bit with the NMRA data base theoretically in place as of 9/01/05.

As of 11/30/05 total NMRA members residing in the Gateway Division territory totaled 290. Within this total are 165 Gateway members who have paid their Divisional publication/service fees of \$3/year.

## VI. Gateway Division Officers/Department chairs For 2006

Gateway Division Director: Jim Anderson  
Gateway Superintendent: Bob Boedges  
Gateway Assistant Superintendent: Bill Levin  
Gateway Treasurer: Dave Lyon  
Gateway Clerk: Ron Gawedzinski  
Membership Chair: Hank Kraichely  
AP Chair: Don Taschner

## VII. Other Items

The Gateway Division website continues to be an attraction. In October 2005, for example, the following stats were generated:

- Hits for entire site about 75K/day
- Page views about 2500/day
- Visitors about 1800/day
- Demographics: 88.65% from US, over 20 other countries had at least 80-936 visitors from each
- 198 Search engines/other sites referred visitors to our site

Jim Anderson  
Gateway Division Director  
December 19, 2005

## Coming Events

- JUN 1-4, 2006: Mid-Continent Region's Annual Regional Convention and Train Show Mid-America Center, One Arena Way, Council Bluffs, Iowa. Sponsored by the Western Heritage Division, MCoR. Convention information and schedules available at

[www.mcor-nmra.org/MCoR\\_Region\\_Meet.html](http://www.mcor-nmra.org/MCoR_Region_Meet.html)

Vendor information is available at:  
[www.whdnmra.org/convention2006/vendors.htm](http://www.whdnmra.org/convention2006/vendors.htm)

This will be the first MCoR Regional Convention after NMRA moves to a single membership for all members. Check the websites and make your plans now to attend this great convention!

- JUL 2-9, 2006: Independence Junction NMRA National Convention, Philadelphia, PA. Information is found at [www.ij2006.org/index.html](http://www.ij2006.org/index.html)

- NOV 4, 2006: Gateway Division Fall Meet, Trinity Lutheran Church, 14088 Clayton Road, Ballwin, MO.

## Division Meetings 2006

**April 16** (Illinois) Brian Post

*DCC Basic Decoder Programming*

**May 15** (Missouri) Bob Johnson

*Layout Operations*

**June 19** (Illinois) Pete Smith

*Scratchbuilding Buildings in Styrene*

**July 17** (Missouri) Tim Hessel

*Animation Projects with Electronics*

**August 21** (Illinois) Brad Joseph

*Prototype Passenger Cars*

**September 18** (Missouri) Brian Post

*DCC Sound Decoder Comparison*

**October 16** (Illinois) Gary Hoover

*Prototyping San Bernardino*

**November 20** (Missouri, Holiday Party)

Ron Gawedzinski & Bill Levin

*Rail Video Trips: NE Canada & Peru*

**December 18** (Illinois) Bob Boedges

*Railroad Operations: Switch Lists & Other Systems*

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## Division Officers

**Superintendent**  
Bob Boedges

**Assistant Superintendent**  
Bill Levin

**Clerk (Secretary)**  
Ron Gawedzinski

**Paymaster (Treasurer)**  
Dave Lyon

**Division Director**  
Jim Anderson

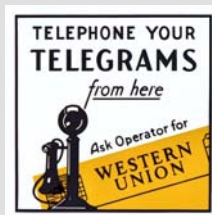
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## Recruit a New Member

The NMRA has recently created a special category of membership, available for a limited time, to recruit new members. The NMRA Rail Pass Membership is a six-month "trial" and includes six issues of the NMRA magazine *Scale Rails* for only \$9.95. It is for new members only and Rail Pass members will need to renew at standard rates. Rail Pass members can vote, attend conventions, and participate in contests, but cannot hold office.

If you know someone who has been wavering, stalling, or procrastinating about joining, this is the time to get them acquainted with the benefits of membership. We have membership forms available at meetings and swap meets and information is available on the NMRA website at [www.nmra.org](http://www.nmra.org). The Division has decided that we will also send RPOs to these new members, when they join through us or otherwise identify themselves to us.

With all new and continuing members, it is important that we each support our organization by making an effort to get acquainted with visitors and newcomers, share our skills, and ask for help when we need it. Members of the Gateway Division are lucky to have a large number of active hobbyists in our vicinity, so let's take advantage of it.



Find signs to print for your model railroad at [www.gatewaynmra.org/download.htm](http://www.gatewaynmra.org/download.htm)

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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. 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 is represented on the NMRA's Board of Trustees. It 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. The 2004 meeting will be organized by the Gateway Division and will be June 4-6. Annual membership in the Mid-Continent Region is \$6 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 membership dues for the Gateway Division are \$3, with all memberships running from July 1 through June 30. Members who join 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)

### How to Join

Visit our website, complete the form at

<http://gatewaynmra.org/membership.htm>