

RPO

Summer 1996: Volume 4, Number 2

The *RPO* is the official publication of the Gateway Division of the Mid-Continent Region (MCoR) of the National Model Railroad Association (NMRA)

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Venita Lake

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Richard Schumacher

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Richard Lake,
Venita Lake
Dan Osborn,
Richard Schumacher,
John Winter

Articles, photos, and 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.

Subscription to the *RPO* is one of the services provided by membership in the Gateway Division. Send new membership applications to the Treasurer.

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Advertising of interest to our membership is accepted for publication in the *RPO*. Contact the Editor or Treasurer for current rates and artwork size information. Please send submissions, suggestions, letters, and address corrections to:

The Editor, *RPO*
Gateway Division NMRA
5851 Waterman Boulevard
St. Louis MO 63112-1515

Articles may be submitted in any format (handwritten, typed or plain unformatted text on disk - either 3.5" or 5.25"), photo submissions are currently limited to 35mm slides or 35mm negatives (color or B&W).

The *RPO* is composed in *Microsoft Word for Windows* and imaged on PostScript laser printers.

Superintendent's Report

by John Winter

I'm getting ready, as most of you are, for the onslaught of train shows/swap meets which are held each year at this time. If you are looking for the latest locomotive, structure, or piece of rolling stock, I'm sure you will find it at one of the shows this fall. If you are looking for a hard-to-find item, maybe something that isn't manufactured anymore, you can probably find it at one of the fall shows.

I wonder if the members would be interested in having our own swap meet during a division meeting? Here's how I see it: Limit the number of items you could bring, say five, but let's have a true swap meet! If possible, no outright selling. If you make a deal to trade all five items to someone for one item, then you swapped it! If you swap your item(s) *and* you get cash, that's O.K. too. Let's try to keep money out of it and have some fun with it. Let's decide at the next meeting.

For those of you who weren't at the last meeting, I want to let you know we will be having soft drinks and snacks at the meetings from now on. We are funding this by having a 50-50 drawing at each meeting. Each attendee will throw \$1 and his name into the hat. At the end of the meeting, we will draw one lucky winner who will take home half the pot. The remaining money will provide the funds for the drinks and snacks. Come to the next meeting—you may win a million!

Don't forget some of the upcoming clinics: Tour of Micro Engineering, How to air brush water-based paints.

I would like to have a Christmas party too.

The nominating committee to provide a slate of candidates for the upcoming election is John Hardy (chair), T.J. Agne and Gary Gross. If you wish to run to a Division Office or to nominate someone, let one of them know before October 1.

And for same bad news, I want to offer my and the division's condolences to our own Venita Lake, editor of the *RPO*, on the passing of her father, and to the family of Mr. and Mrs. Bill Farmer, on their untimely death while on a trip in Texas. Please accept our sympathy.

If there is anything I can do for you, please let me know. Don't be afraid to speak up at a meeting or give me a call at home.

Till next time, John, SPF

On the Cover

Monday, July 22, 1996, 8 am:
Santa Fe 523 proceeds uphill after waiting on the outside passing track of the Tehachapi Loop for another Santa Fe train to complete its downhill trip, providing a private photo opportunity for Division members Schumacher, Lake and Lake. An early rush pushed freight through the Loop before maintenance work closed down the show.

Photo by Venita Lake.

Division Call Board

Superintendent
John Winter (618) 526-4482

Assistant Superintendent
Hank Kraichely (314) 394-5151
Gateway Division Director
Richard Schumacher (314) 846-2224
Secretary (Clerk)
Richard Lake (314) 727-7378
Treasurer (Paymaster)
Ken Thompson (314) 394-2247
Achievement Program Chairman
Kevin Hampton (314) 731-3653
RPO Editor
Venita Lake (314) 727-7378
Event Committee Chairman
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Re-Rail Chairman
Venita Lake (314) 727-7378
Division Attorney
Bob Amsler (314) 464-0589
1996 & 1997 Division Meet Chairman
Hank Kraichely (314) 394-5151
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Dan Osborn (618) 345-4209
1997 Project Railroad CoChairs
Richard Schumacher (314) 846-2224
Tillo Agne (618) 234-3247
2001 National Convention
Chair Bob Amsler (314) 464-0589
Co-Chair John Hardy (314) 677-8270
Co-Chair Randy Meyer (314) 579-0933
Gateway Division Clothing
John Lee (314) 638-0515
MCoR *Caboose Kibitzer* Editor
Richard Schumacher (314) 846-2224
MCoR Achievement Program Chairman
Brad Joseph (618) 233-8140
MCoR Member Aid Chairman
Richard Lake (314) 727-7378
MCoR Southern Illinois Area Director
Dan Osborn (618) 345-4209

Dispatcher's Desk

by Bob Amsler

I attended the National Convention and Train Show in Long Beach, California and it was a fantastic experience. If you ever get the chance to go to a NMRA national convention, do go. It is an experience you will long remember. I attended many clinics and saw many sights. It was great to go to Cajon and watch trains and the clinics that I attended were informative. I learned many things—from appropriate weathering for freight cars during the steam era to how to re-motor a brass engine so that it will run well. I also attended a few clinics on operations.

One of the things that I learned at an operations clinic was that the railroads use words that have meanings that can be easy to figure out and use, but at other times these words will not necessarily make sense. For instance, if you thought a “yard” meant that there were multiple tracks around and perhaps a switcher or two, you would be wrong. When I found this out I was amazed. And I know this is true because this was told to me in a clinic not by some model railroader who works in a non-railroad job during the day, but by an engineer who started out hand firing Santa Fe engines over Cajon.

A yard is “a system of tracks within defined limits provided for the making up of trains, storing of cars and other purposes, over which movements not authorized by time-table, or by train order, may be made, subject to prescribed signals and rules, or special instructions.” Sounds similar to what I used to think of as a yard, until it was explained by a real railroader.

There are two tracks owned by the Santa Fe which snake their way through Cajon, over Summit and down into the Mojave Desert. These tracks diverge at Cajon, California. Because the mountains are so steep, Santa Fe had to use helper engines. (The two different Santa Fe tracks are at 2.2% and 3%, also known as Santa Fe “Easy Way” and Santa Fe “Hard Way”.) The crew of a helper engine consisted of two men, an engineer and a fireman. On the west side of the pass the helpers were stationed at Cajon. A station was there with a telegrapher, as well as a small coaling area and water tank so that the helpers always had sufficient coal and water to tackle the steep grades.

When the helper stopped at Cajon, it would block one of the two tracks. According to the rules (Rule 99 in my 1940 version of the Uniform Code of Operating Rules), when a train stops on the main, the flagman must go back immediately and place two torpedoes and lighted fuses a sufficient distance from the rear of the train in order that any train coming from the rear will have time to stop and avoid hitting the train on the main. The head end brakeman or fireman must do the same for the front of the train to avoid the same results for any train approaching from that direction. Therefore, when the helper crew was at Cajon, according to the rules, they would have to flag protect their train. But if they did this, who would put the coal and water in the tender or get the orders from the telegrapher and sign for them? There are only two men on the helper engine.

Well, the railroad created a yard at Cajon by simply declaring it so. There were only two tracks at Cajon and

they are both mains. But the advantage is that *in a yard* the main track can be used without flag protection against all but first class trains. Second and inferior class trains had to move through the yards at restricted speed, which is defined as proceeding prepared to stop short of a train, obstruction, or anything that may require the speed of the train or engine to be reduced. Thus the helper crew only had to get out of the way of the passenger trains. Everybody else had to be careful when approaching Cajon. Since all but passenger trains stopped here to pick up a helper, this worked out great. (Sometimes even passenger trains used the helpers though.)

The railroads used the definition of a yard to alleviate an operating problem. The railroads did this so that they would not have to hire two more men for each helper engine working over this stretch of the railroad. It increased the efficiency of the crews because while the fireman took care of the engine, the engineer could get his orders and get his engine out of the way of the next train coming down the mountain or get his engine ready to help the next train needing a shove over the mountain. The railroads got around our usual perception of a yard by the phrase "and other purposes" in the definition of yard. This was the other purpose. Numerous railroads did this whenever confronted with a similar problem.

If your railroad does not have the money to hire two additional flagmen to protect your trains in helper districts, do what the prototype does. Declare the area where your switchers wait for trains a yard. Then

you do not have to go and hire them (not to mention paint them.)

I'll let you know more about what I learned in Long Beach in future columns. Until the next time I hope all the signals that you see are green over red!

Editor's Note:

Duty Rosters

by Venita Lake

Catching up on all the new and old news may sound too much like "what I did on my summer vacation," and once again I find myself getting this together late, so that the summer issue will arrive shortly after the official end of summer. For now I'll pass on showing you the rest of the train and layout photos from California and the Rock Island Technical Society's meeting in Little Rock or bragging about running trains on Gary Siegel's L&N, which was an *MR* feature last spring. (Guess I sneaked that in anyway!)

Of course, the big news for the Division is that St. Louis was chosen as the site of the 2001 national convention of the NMRA. Monthly meetings of the core convention committee continue to be held at Randy Meyer's home, at least until the committee structure is developed and subcommittee chairs are selected and/or drafted.

General Chairman Bob Amsler and co-chairs Randy Meyer and John Hardy will be assisted by "second level" committee chairs which, in turn, will have a variety of sub-committees. For example, the Convention Office cluster, chaired by Vance Lischer and

Dick Wegner, will have responsibility for the company store, convention property, security, information services, audio-visual equipment, and the hospitality room. The Treasurer's cluster, chaired by Hank Kraichely, Gary Gross and Ken Thompson, will deal with the bank and credit card accounts, receipts and expenditures. Registration will be handled by Jim Anderson, Marie Schindler and Jerry Clark. "Manpower" will be chaired by Cheryl Meyer and Corrine Thompson — and I'm trying real hard to avoid making comments about this committee label! Their committee has already started polling members about their interests and professional expertise so that we can get everyone involved.

The Publicity Committee chaired by Venita Lake and Al Bailey will be overseeing national and local efforts to publicize the convention, as well as working with other committees to produce brochures and programs. John Winter and Brad Joseph will be directing Inside Activities such as clinics, contests, catering, silent auction and live auction, signage, video and film theater, and special interest group activities. Outside Activities will be chaired by Hank Kraichely and Dan Osborn and will involve those convention events not in the convention hotel: layout tours, prototype tours, extra fare rail tours, optional tours, and a golf tournament.

Obviously, while these "sub-committees" are classified within a larger group, a number of these are major responsibilities, and we will be telling you more about these committees as plans (and the next few years) progress. We'll also have some overlap. For instance, as

Transportation chairs, John Schindler and John Lee will be working with layout tours, extra fare rail tours, and other tours, as well as the shuttle service between hotels and the convention center. Family Activities are being planned by Nancy Osborn and Mary Birdsell and will include extra fare tours, clinics, and contests. T.J. Agne and Randy Domineck will work on the Train Show activities that are the responsibility of the Division: modular layouts and hobbyist setups. (Dealers and promotion of the train show, as well as negotiations with the convention center, are handled by the national office.)

In case you haven't gotten the point by now, this is a whole lot more than putting on a fall meet or even a great Regional like we had this past June. We'll be looking for volunteers, draftees, spouses and significant others, neighbors, and non-modelers before we're finished. Using a metaphor from a different mode of transportation, choose your rut carefully, because you could be in it a long time. But if you haven't already, please begin to think about which road you would like to volunteer to travel.

Gateway Division Director's Report

by Richard Schumacher

The Mid-Continent Region, with assistance from the Gateway Division, has now collected sufficient funds to purchase the new National computer system. This replaces an outdated and almost unusable system and will greatly improve the response time and record-keeping capabilities for

membership information. Gateway provided a \$250 donation to this fund at the Regional board meeting. MCoR Division donations at the Board meeting combined with the additional \$1,000 donated by two of our Division members at the Regional banquet, acted as a challenge to the rest of the NMRA to contribute. Needless to say, NMRA President Bob Charles was very pleased.

We are sorry to report that William Farmer died in August of injuries received in an automobile accident in Texas. His wife Jeanne was also killed in the accident.

Bill joined the NMRA in 1970 and was a Life Member. He served as Mailing Chairman for the Mid-Continent Region and worked with Bill Hammer in recruiting national members. Bill was a member of the Kirkwood Railroad Association and the Big Bend Railroad Club and modeled in both O and HO scales.

He and his wife were returning from an O scale convention at the time of the accident. They are survived by two sons, a daughter, and six grandchildren.

Last winter Eugene Wulfekuehler passed away. Gene's interests were in HO and S tinsplate of the 1920's and '30's, as well as photography and travel. He had been an NMRA member since 1977 and was a member of the McDonnell-Douglas Railroad Club.

We extend our sympathies to the families of both members.

Southern Illinois Director's Retort

by Dan Osborn

First and foremost, I would like to thank John Winter for his support, and Dean Windsor for his confidence in this appointment. Not to sound like a mutual admiration society, but for your sakes, I hope to do as good a job as my predecessors. If you belong to a club in Southern Illinois, please drop me a note at 1822 State Street, Granite City, IL 62040 letting me know when and where you meet, as I would like to visit with all of the clubs in Southern Illinois. If you have an active modeling membership and would like to know more about the Achievement Program, or you need something judged, I'm still your man, and I *will* hijack another judge!

It's plug time. This year, as many of you may already know, the Gateway Division has decided not to hold a full-blown division meet. Instead, we will be holding a model and photo contest at the Museum of Transport on Barrett Station Road, west of I-270. It will be held on October 13, 1996. I would encourage all to enter, and enter often. This event is intended to be part of a "family day," and the Museum plans many activities, including the 1522 under steam, hay wagons, antique cars, and a steam tractor. This is a great chance to show others what the Division does and we expect that most of our entries will be from Division members, so step up to the plate and take a swing.

The Gateway Division will return to its regularly scheduled fall meet next year on September 6 and 7, 1997. We have adopted the Gateway Center

(appropriate, don't you think?) in Collinsville as our show home, and will return to the middle of October in 1998. In fact, we have dates scheduled there through 2000.

As always, it takes people to make these shows a success for our members, but it takes money to keep the Division running. The 1997 show will be chaired by Hank Kraichely and co-chaired by myself, and we will be contacting people beginning this fall to help us out. Please volunteer a bit of your time—it's fun and you meet more people, and we get to know you better. And for you MMR hopefuls, this is one way to get your feet wet in the AP program as an association volunteer.

Any questions or problems can be addressed to the above address, or you can call me at work at (618) 345-4209, or fax me at (618) 451-1149.

Look me up. I go to most all the shows.



All Division minutes were faithfully recorded by Division Clerk, Richard Lake.

Division Meeting Minutes for 4/15/96

Superintendent John Winter called the business meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. at Columbia Model Railroaders club facility. A short business meeting consisting of announcements regarding the Regional Convention in June was held.

Venita Lake, *RPO* Editor, announced that members could get the new Membership Directory from her at the end of the Meeting.

Business Meeting adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

Dan Osborn and TJ Agne distributed copies of the plan selected for the '96 Project Layout and then conducted a clinic which involved

assembling the framing for the layout and then doing the "cookie cutter" marking and cutting of the 4 x 8 sheet of plywood. The meeting ended at approximately 9:30 p.m.

Division Meeting Minutes for 5/20/96

Superintendent John Winter was delayed so Assistant Superintendent Hank Kraichely called the meeting to order at 7:15 p.m. There was no clinic so the business meeting began at 7:15.

Richard Schumacher moved that the minutes for February, March, and April be approved. John Hardy second. Approved.

Treasurer's Report: Beginning balance as of 3/18/96 was \$4,591.52. Credits were deposited in the amount of \$2,940.36. Payments were made in the amount of \$4,297.02. The balance as of May 20, 1996, was \$3,234.86. Jack Templeton moved to accept the Treasurer's report. Randy Meyer second. Approved.

'96 Regional: John Hardy reported that everything is going well. He pointed out that it will take participation by everyone to have a successful regional.

2001 National Convention: Bob Amsler reported on the visit to St. Louis by Brian Kampschroer. Brian was favorably impressed with St. Louis and the Division. Planning for the presentation is proceeding on schedule. Randy Meyer announced work sessions on the presentation will take place at his home on May 31 and June 7.

RPO: Venita Lake requested that all authors and columnists get copy to her as soon as possible. She hopes to have the next issue ready for distribution before the Regional Convention.

ReRail: Venita Lake reported that the NMRA has not been providing current reports on lapsed members so there has been no reraill activity.

Gateway Coordinating Council: Hank Kraichely reported that the Council has been notified of the cancellation of the Gateway Division fall show. The fall show will be replaced this year by a Division Model Contest on October 13 to be held at the Museum of Transportation. The project layout drawing will also be conducted at that time.

Project Layout: Dan Osborn called for volunteers to work on the layout. Work session scheduled for Saturday, June 1, 1996, at 10 a.m. Dan also brought structure kits to the

meeting and asked that members select a kit to assemble for the layout.

Bob Amsler reported that everything is now completed and the Division does have 501(c)3 status.

Richard Schumacher requested ad copy for the Division ad which will appear in the next *Caboose Kibitzer*.

New Business:

Illinois Meeting Location: The search for a regular meeting place is still underway. The Columbia Model Railroad Club has offered the use of their club location and the June meeting will be held there.

Richard Lake volunteered to provide the division with a homepage site on the Internet. John Hardy moved the Division accept the offer. Randy Meyer second. Approved.

Bob Amsler moved the Gateway Division become an Associate Member of the Museum of Transportation. Larry Sayre second. Approved.

John Hardy moved the meeting adjourn at 8:45 p.m.

Division Meeting Minutes for 6/17/96

Superintendent John Winter called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m.

Clinic: Several members of the Division presented brief descriptions of the assembly and finish techniques used on structures they built for the Gateway III project layout. The clinics concluded at 7:35 p.m. followed by a 15 minute break.

Business Meeting called to order at 7:50 p.m. John Hardy moved that the minutes from May be approved. Randy Meyer second. Approved.

Treasurer's Report: Ken Thompson was unable to attend so he submitted the report through Asst. Superintendent Hank Kraichely. Beginning balance as of 5/20/96 was \$3,234.86. Credits were deposited in the amount of \$3,265.60. Payments were made in the amount of \$1,463.12. The balance as of June 15, 1996, was \$5,037.24. Bob Amsler moved to approve the report. Gregor Moe second. Approved.

'96 Regional: John Hardy reported that everything is going well. He stressed the importance of participation by all members to produce a successful event.

RPO: Venita Lake requested that all authors and columnists get copy to her as soon as

possible. She is working on both the spring and summer issues right now.

New Business:

Richard Lake circulated a sign up sheet for the August 3 - 4 Transportation Celebration at the Museum of Transport. John Hardy suggested that clubs get 4 or more members to sign up for a time slot to help in staffing the event. Every time slot has a full team.

Hank Kraichely announced there would be a Gateway Division Model Contest at the Museum on Sunday, October 13, 1996. All members were encouraged to enter.

Richard Schumacher announced that we have received official notification of our tax exempt status. Bob Amsler moved the Division open a Company Store now that the tax exempt status is official. Richard Schumacher second. Approved.

Columbia Model RR announced the date for their fall meet is October 6, 1996. Division is welcome to bring Gateway Central III for display and to sell tickets.

Bob Amsler showed the video for the 2001 convention bid presentation in Long Beach and did his oral presentation as well.

Meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Division Meeting Minutes for 7/16/96

Meeting began at the Museum of Transport at 7 p.m. with a clinic by Vance Lischer on bridge construction. Break at 8:05 p.m. There was no business meeting as most of the officers were attending the national convention in Long Beach.

Division Meeting Minutes for 8/19/96

Superintendent John Winter called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Russ Watts presented a clinic on building his award winning bridge. Break at 7:25 p.m.

Business Meeting called to order at 7:45 p.m. John Hardy moved that the minutes from June and July be approved. Randy Meyer second. Approved.

Treasurer's Report: Ken Thompson was unable to attend and submitted the report through Asst. Superintendent Hank Kraichely. Balance as of August 7, 1996 was \$6,028.79. A detailed report for the '96 Regional was presented. That

report is available for inspection in the Division Log kept by the Secretary. '96 Regional: had 232 Registrants, 50 for prototype tours, 143 for BBQ. Richard Schumacher moved to accept the report. Randy Meyer second. Approved.

John Schindler distributed *Certificates of Appreciation* to division members who worked on the Regional in recognition of their contribution.

John Winter reported on a suggestion from John Lee that the division appoint a Division Chaplain. A request for volunteers was made. John Lee accepted the position as Division Chaplain.

John Winter circulated a proposed mission statement. After discussion John Lee moved to adopt the proposed statement as presented. John Hardy second. Approved.

Gateway Division Mission Statement:

To promote the hobby of model railroading to the member and the non-member alike; to represent the member's interest, and insure that each member receives full value from membership at the local, regional and national level; and to provide education for the member and to the general public regarding the hobby of model railroading.

Museum of Transportation Celebration: Rich Lake thanked those who worked the event. A suggestion was made that for future events it would be useful to have a Gateway Banner.

Dan Osborn has been appointed Region Director for Southern Illinois effective September 1, 1996.

John Winter read some of the correspondence related to the '96 Regional. General tone of all the correspondence was highly favorable. One letter was a request to set up a layout tour for a group from Iowa in October. Hank Kraichely will follow through on this request.

October Contest Meet: Hank Kraichely reported the it will be held at the Museum of Transport as part of their Family Fun Day. The drawing for Gateway Central III will be held there. Jim Scott will bring a portable switching layout for the event as well.

Bridging the Centuries 2001: John Hardy made a brief report on current status of committee structure and the *Eagle Club*. *Eagle Club* membership is \$125 and will be limited to 201 members.

John Lee reported that Kadee spiker and adapters for Code 83 rail are once again available and anyone interested in ordering should contact him.

'97 Fall Meet: Dan Osborn has reserved space with the Gateway Center, Collinsville, for September 6 & 7, 1997. The date is the weekend after Labor Day. Hank Kraichely will be chair and Dan Osborn will co-chair.

Meeting adjourned at 8 p.m.

Calendar of Events

Do you know of an event of interest to other *Gateway Division* members? Send information for future issues to the editor.

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.

Second Monday of each month:

2001 National Convention
Planning Committee. 7:30 pm
Randy Meyer's, 156 Ladue Oaks,
Creve Coeur MO (314) 579-0933

Sun, October 6, 1996

Columbia Model Railroaders Fall
Meet, Turner Hall, Columbia, IL,
10am-3pm

Sun, October 13, 1996

Family Fall Festival, Museum of
Transport, 9am-5pm. A special
day geared to the children.
*Gateway Division will draw winner
of project layout and have fall
contests in place of its annual fall
meet.* \$4 adults; \$1.50 seniors
65+ and children 5-12 years.

Sat, October 19, 1996

McDonnell Douglas Meet, 10 am -
3 pm, Queeny Park, 550
Wiedman Road, \$2

Sat-Sun, October 19 and 20, 1996

Round-trip excursions each day
behind UP E-units from St. Louis
to Springfield, IL and on to South
Pekin Junction, sponsored by St.
Louis Chapter, National Railway
Historical Society. Write Attn:
Train Trip, 11221 Manchester,
Suite 321, St. Louis, MO 63122

Mon, October 21, 1996
 Gateway Division Meeting
 7 pm, Columbia Model
 Railroaders, IL
 Clinic: John Schindler on
 Command Control wiring

Sun, October 27, 1996
 Rock Island Technical Society,
 Museum of Transport, 5-7pm.

Sat, November 2, 1996
 3rd Annual Twin City Express
 train show & swap meet, Holiday
 Inn, Festus, MO, 9am-3pm \$3, or
 \$2 & 1 non-perishable food item

Sat, November 2, 1996
 Ozark Mountain Division Meet,
 Springfield, MO (Brentwood
 Christian Church)

Mon, November 18, 1996
 Gateway Division Meeting
 7 pm, Museum of Transport
 "Christmas Kick-off" party;
 spouses invited.

Sun, December 8, 1996
 Southern Illinois Train Show
 11 am - 5 pm, Rend Lake
 Community College, \$2

Mon, December 16, 1996
 Gateway Division Meeting
 7 pm, Columbia Model
 Railroaders, IL
 Clinic: John Lee and Dan Osborn
 on water-based painting

and November) are held at the
 National Museum of Transportation on
 Barrett Station Road in West St. Louis
 County. Meetings in even numbered
 months (the other ones) are held in
 Illinois. They will be held at the
 Columbia Model Railroad Club in
 Columbia, IL until further notice. The
 club is located on Main Street behind
 Big A Auto Parts and across the street
 from the Phillips 66 station.

Division meetings are the third
 Monday of each month with the clinic
 portion starting at 7:00 pm. The
 business meeting follows the clinic
 after a short break.



Directory Update

First a correction and a sincere apology to Blair Drazic who appeared as "Blair Brazie" in the list of new members last time. (I also wrote that minutes for 1997 were approved, but you probably realized that the Division isn't that efficient! v) The entry should have read:

Drazic, Blair (Joyce)

303 Stablestone Drive
 Chesterfield, MO 63017
 h (314) 469-9096 w (314) 997-9370
 Lawyer
 On3, HO, HOn3: 1953, EBT, PRR
 Home Layout, visitors by appointment
 11', 100% bnch, trk, elec, scn; Sound
 (Also new to NMRA, MCoR; son

Where's The Meeting?

Meetings in odd numbered months
 (January, March, May, July, Sept.,



Open House

Every Sunday 1-6 pm December 1 - January 5
 Sierra Central Model Railroad
 115 Elm Street O'Fallon, Illinois

Pat on the Back

Of sorts... Watch for Bob Amsler's photo in the *NMRA Bulletin* promoting the new line of NMRA clothing. Bob did his modeling in Long Beach.

Venita Lake won second place in the "Thumbs" category at the national convention. Look for photo in the *Caboose Kibitzer*.

Les Walker's HO small town depot from Webster Classic Models is a featured product review in the October *Model Railroader*.

Channel 2 (FOX) visited Vance Lischer to do a news feature on the *Wabash caboose* he has been restoring at his home.

Four Gateway Division members presented clinics at the Long Beach National Convention: John Lee, Phil Sheahan, Richard Schumacher and Venita Lake.

Earn AP Author Points

Send your photos and articles to the Editor, Venita Lake, to be included in future issues of the *RPO*. Original 35mm slides or negatives produce the best photos, and articles written in crayon to word processing, are all acceptable formats.

Material for the next issue should be submitted by October 20. Promises before that time of author's intent to submit material would be *greatly* appreciated by the Editor.

Pike Registry

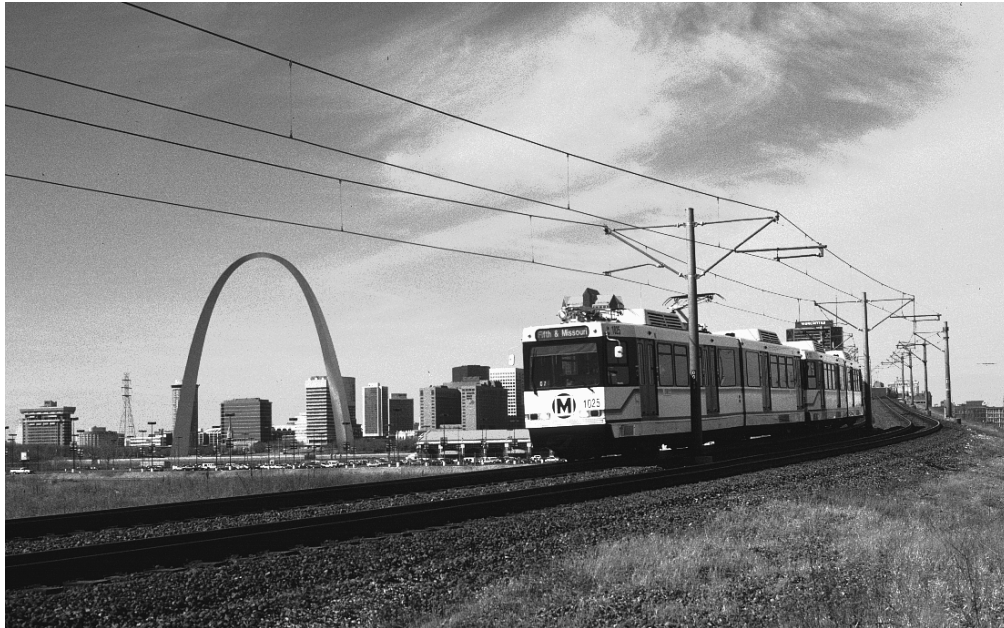
Only five dollars will remind others for the next four issues of the *RPO* that you have (at least) come up with a name for your pike — or are seriously thinking about it — or know your own name.... For an additional fee, the same material can be used to spread the word even further through the MCoR *Caboose Kibitzer*. Send your money and content to *RPO* editor Venita Lake or *Kibitzer* editor Richard Schumacher for bragging space.

For Sale

**Keeler CTC80 Command Control
40+ Receivers 14 Throttles
6 Power Stations
1 Command Center (brain box)**

\$3,200 or best offer

**Contact: Pete Sanborn
O'Fallon, Illinois
(618) 624-9027**



Eastbound Metrolink at East Eads Bridge approach. Photo by Brad Joseph.