



MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Notice of Nominations and 2006 Election

Board of Directors and Officers

By an overwhelming majority, the NMRA membership approved the new Regulations in early 2004. As part of our ongoing implementation of these Regulations, we will seat the NEW nine-member Board of Directors (BOD) at the July 2005 meeting in Cincinnati.


Over the winter, we will hold the elections for the new BOD. The Regulations set three-year terms for Directors, with the exception of the first board. The outgoing Board of Trustees will draw lots at the January 2005 BOT meeting, setting the

terms of office for new BOD members at one, two or three years. The Director positions serving for one year, two years, and three years will be announced at the January meeting and on the NMRA Web site.

This is the official notice that three Directors, the President, and the Vice President will reach the end of their terms in July 2006. If you are interested in running for one of these positions, contact the Nominations Chair at nominat@hq.nmra.org or by mail at 632 Bob

White Rd., Wayne, PA, USA, 19087-2305. The deadline for submitting names is March 31, 2005.

The regulations provide an alternative approach—petition. Signed petitions must be presented in hard copy to the same address. The deadline for receipt of petitions is June 15, 2005.

Review the NMRA Regulations on the Web site for the entire nominations and election process. Questions will be received by the Nominations committee at the address above. 

ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM

Modeling With The Masters... What's Next?

By Clark Kooning, MMR

Over the past six years we have presented 12 full Modeling with the Masters weekends all over North America with over 250 students attending. Recently we presented the MWTM program at the Seattle National NMRA convention in which we had students take part in five individual clinics. Clinics included everything from building white metal kits to scratchbuilding in styrene. It is one of the hottest events at any national convention. Most recently 42 students took part in MWTM at the Pacific Southwest Regional convention in Glendale, Calif.

The reviews by students and instructors have been outstanding. Modeling With The Masters is a hands-on program where participants actually build and gain first-hand knowledge of the techniques taught. Then they get a chance to put them into practice on the spot with interesting projects and great instructors.


If you're not familiar with the Modeling With The Masters concept it was developed during several NMRA events where participants wanted more than just a "how to clinic." But this was difficult to provide due to the high number of members attending our clinic programs. So MWTM was developed as a hands-on approach to modeling. By limiting the number of participants, each registrant receives personal instruction by NMRA Master Model Railroaders.

The NMRA, in conjunction with its Education Network, has put together a

planned series of hands-on projects during future NMRA national conventions and selected regional conventions each year. These are in addition to our full weekend programs in which you, the modeler, will build anything from a laser structure to painted figures. Both formats are hands-on with instruction from some of the top model railroaders in the world. All instructors are certified NMRA Master Model Railroaders.

Our next Modeling with the Masters weekend will be held in Sacramento, Calif. The dates for the weekend are March 31-April 2. A full slate of sessions includes:

- Introduction to Making Masters and Molds
- Building Plaster Structures
- Basics of Painting and Weathering Rolling Stock
- A special evening program is geared to learning how to hand-lay track with a simple fixture so anyone can hand-lay track and in any scale.

And these are just the highlights. To learn about the complete program, to register, or just to get more information, contact us via e-mail at mwtm@hq.nmra.org or write: Clark Kooning, MMR, 6989 Glory Court, Mississauga, Ont. Canada. If you are a current MMR we would also like to hear from you about being a future instructor. Again please contact us. 

In Memoriam

We wish to bid farewell to our members and friends who have reached the end of their journey. Our sincere sympathy is extended to members of the families they left behind. For the month of September 2004.

W. G. Armstrong, Union City, CA
Sy Aufseher, Orlando, FL
N.G. Brazelton, Denver, CO
A. Karl P. Busch, San Diego, CA
Dennis Charkowski Norridge, IL
John W. De Muth, Eugene, OR
Robert P. DeHart, Saint Joseph, MO
Kendall B. Hampton, Indian Hills, CO
E.W. Hix, El Reno, OK
Edward J. Janecek Schaumburg, IL
W. J. Jardin, Middlesex
A. Robert O'Brien, Lehi, UT
A. Robert A. Ocain, Viola, WI
Graham Redman, Salmon Arm, BC
Paul D. Riddle, Orange Park, FL
Thomas L. Roach, Seattle, WA
Raymond R. Thomas, Peoria, AZ
James T. Toohey, Baulkham Hill, NSW
Marzell M. Trost, Chicago, IL
Frank L. Wey, Terre Haute, IN
C. M. Winters, Houston, TX

Pass Exchange

Pass Exchange is a free program for all NMRA members. It enables you to send and receive passes from model railroaders all over the world. Even if you don't have an operating model railroad, you can make up a pass for your ideal imaginary railroad which will serve as an introduction to other model railroaders.

To get started, send one of your passes with your address and NMRA number to Robert Stobbe, MMR, 1303 Lytle Street, Kerrville, TX 78028. You will receive a list of Pass Exchangers and your name will be published as a Pass Exchanger in the Bulletin as soon as possible. Your pass will also be

considered for the "Pass of the Month" feature in the Bulletin.

To get started as an E-Passer, e-mail your pass to me at rstob@texxa.net with a note showing your NMRA number. Your name will be added to my E-Passers list, which is distributed periodically to all on the list. You also may be selected as "Pass of the Month" and have your pass printed in the Bulletin.

Pass of the Month

I first received Walter Kirby's Nip Rock RR pass in 1997. I see Walter still uses the same well done pass.

And who can blame him? It is indeed a well-done pass, with all of the things it takes to make a nice pass. It tells that the RR connects with the CNR and the CPR so it probably follows that prototype, also that it is HO scale. On the back is the location of the Head Office and Shops. Walter says he has collected 784 passes and it is his goal to collect 1,000 passes before he passes on. But he says he is a "young 83" so still has time. If you did not get this fine pass the first go-around I urge you to do so now. Write Walter at Box 158, Red Rock, Ontario, Canada P0T 2P0.

—W. Robert Stobbe, MMR
Pass Exchange Chairman

Achievement Program

NMRA AP Certificate

Report for October 2004

*Indicates first Certificate of Achievement

Golden Spike

Bill Edwards, Hamilton, OH
Paul Godwin, Cincinnati, OH
Richard Piland, Fairfield, OH

Kris Turman, Hamilton, OH
G. William Fay, Virginia Beach, VA
Norman Garner, Portsmouth, VA
Sharon Prescott, Virginia Beach, VA

Master Builder - Motive Power

None this month

Master Builder - Cars

None this month

Master Builder - Structures

None this month

Master Builder - Scenery

Jerry Ashley, Louisville, KY
Bill Edwards, Hamilton, OH*
Paul Godwin, Cincinnati, OH*
Joseph Lofland, Bear, DE

Master Builder - Prototype Modeler

None this month

Model Railroad Engineer - Civil

Joseph Lofland, Bear, DE

Model Railroad Engineer - Electrical

Joseph Lofland, Bear, DE
Phil Monat, Bronx, NY*

Chief Dispatcher

William Brown, Jamesville, NY

Association Official

None this month

Association Volunteer

Eugene Eberhart, Cincinnati, OH*
Bill Edwards, Hamilton, OH
Tony Michel, Cincinnati, OH*
Paul Miklos, Loveland, OH*
Laura Proops, Maineville, OH*
Van Chanay, Dolores, CO*
Michael Phillips, Orlando, FL 32807*

Model Railroad Author

J. Stephen Sandifer, Meadows Place, TX*

Master Model Railroader

None this month

TECHNICAL DEPARTMENT

Update from the DCC Working Group

By Bob Jacobsen and Peter Ely
tech-dcc@hq.nmra.org

The NMRA Technical Department includes a DCC Working Group. It's made of modelers and manufacturers working to improve DCC for the good of all of us. As you can imagine, there are many technical issues and opinions on how to move forward that need to be resolved before a new Standard or Recommended Practice can be developed. We've been the co-chairs of the working group since January 2004.

The working group uses the DCC Info Web site to keep modelers updated on what we're doing: <http://dcc.info>

You can find minutes of meetings, technical information and copies of DCC Standards and RPs on the dcc.info Web site. In particular, the "active topics" might be interesting: <http://dcc.info/WGpublic/active-topics.html>.

As new things come up, we add them to this page to keep you informed.

Early this fall, as this was being written, the two large areas of discussion are finalizing bidirectional communications and investigating compatibility between DCC power stations and decoders that draw large starting currents. These are topics of great interest to both modelers and manufacturers.

We also work on more incremental improvements to DCC. One example is the Bachmann E-Z command station (reviewed in the September 2004 *Scale Rails*) which works with new decoder features to allow using the main track for programming. This required a change to the DCC Recommended Practices to ensure that other manufacturers can build locomotive decoders with this feature too. This kind of interchange benefits us all.

That's all for now. Next time, we'll talk some more about the details of coming DCC improvements.

WELCOME ABOARD

New members for the month of Sept. 2004.

Foreign and APO

None this month

Northeastern

Michael J. Maioriello, Bronx, NY
Brad Moreschi, Norfolk, MA
Eric Wilhelm, Southbridge, MA
Justin Redmond, Elizabeth, NJ
Joel Rosenbaum, Eatontown, NJ
S. Berliner, Glen Head, NY
Geoffrey Thomas, Milford, NH
David C. Toll, Wappingers Falls, NY
Francis E. Schneider, Clay, NY
Gustav W. Verderber, Lowell, VT
John Olivieri, Bronxville, NY
Gerard E. Sedlak, Carmel, NY

Niagara Frontier

Barbara K. Tucker, Wainfleet ON, Canada

North Central

Larry Ellis, Bronson, MI
Alex Van Zanten, Ceresco, MI
Douglas S. Fisher, Charlotte, MI
David F. Hoyt, East Lansing, MI
Ron St. Laurent, Okemos, MI
Roger C. Stimson, Okemos, MI
Dewey G. Norton, Wyandotte, MI
Vera J. Bahry, Aracadia, MI
Fred V. Gandolfi, Troy, MI
Kenneth J. Smith, Ira Township, MI

Thousand Lakes Region

David P. Voss, Winnipeg, MB, Canada

Pacific Northwest

Larry A. Crosby, Castle Rock, WA
Pete B. Mattison, Valdez, AK
Ray Polkinghorn, Seattle, WA
James B. Van Delden, Neah Bay, WA
Gerrit Oldenhof, Edmonton, AB, Canada

Pacific Southwest

Timothy C. Rickard, San Diego, CA

Steve I. Marshall, Benson, AZ
Brian A. Borysewich, Las Vegas, NV
Armando Cruz, Ana, CA

Pacific Coast

Eugene J. Miller, San Miguel, CA
Albert J. Lowe, Mountain View, CA
Bob Mankin, Discovery Bay, CA
Francis A. Killinger, Walker Lake, NV
Daniel J. Swearingen, Tiburon, CA

Rocky Mountain

Clifford Andersen, Arvada, CO
Dennis J. Balchunas, Broomfield, CO
Kenneth J. Hardison, Colorado Springs, CO
L. A. Jones, Grand Junction, CO

Midwest

Richard A. Leys, Kenosha, WI
Myron L. Weber, Beecher, IL
Samuel A. Moravec, Bloomington, IL
Gregory K. Steele, Fishers IN
Harry V. Ellis, Chicago, IL
Bruce Rodbro, Beach Park, IL
Steve Schwall, Indian Creek, IL
Blackhawk Railway Society, Oregon IL
Michael A. Updike, Sandwich, IL

Mid-Continent

Robert J. Hollowell, Blue Springs, MO
David M. Sobczak, Olathe, KS
Lance K. Tindall, Edwards, MO
Alfred B. Jones, Sherwood, MO

Mid-Eastern

Raymond J. Dodenhoff, Greenwood, DE
John J. Dalton, West Creek, NJ
John D. Kern, Harbor Township, NJ
Peter H. Slugg, Princeton, NJ
Paul F. Cappelloni, Harleysville, PA
Daniel J. Rondinelli, Philadelphia, PA
Daniel C. Vandermause, Ellicott City, MD

Lone Star

Edwin E. Grain, Ft Worth, TX

James Prater, Ft. Worth, TX
Wendy Wilkinson, Bedford, TX
Terry Geske, Baton Rouge, LA
Brian R. Helms, Baton Rouge LA
Jim Griffin, Garland, TX
David M. Hallm Dallas TX
Michael L. Hawkins, The Colony, TX
Paul A. Mathis, San Antonio, TX
John G. Soule, Austin, TX
Charles S. Kneipp, Keithville, LA

Mid Central

Thomas L. Fountaine, Greenford, OH
John F. Kohler, Louisville, OH
Ronald P. Wigal, Stow, OH
Kevin Kuzman, Charleroi, PA
Robert K. Reighard, Midland, PA
David K. Brandeberry, Rio Grande, OH
Terrance E. Pope, Middletown, OH
Clay Smith, Hopkinsville, KY

Southeastern

Jeffery L. Duncan, Alabaster, AL
James S. Cole, Alpharetta, GA
Charles W. Landerfelt, Canton, GA

Bill Mathewson, Canton, GA
Joshua Clark, McEwen, TN
Ronald S. Reagan, Long Beach, MS

British

Robert J. Howard-King, Norwich, Norfolk, England
Martin H. Ackroyd, Bristol, England
J. Foster, Darwen, Lancashire, England
P. Whittaker, Middlewich, Cheshire, England
M. Soilleux, Cardwell, Beauchamp, Leicestershire, England
E. J. Kirkland, Llanbydder, Dyfed, Wales

Sunshine

H Bruce Diesl, Elkton, FL
John J. Majdiak, Ft. Myers, FL
David P. Slozer, Tampa, FL

Australasian

Peter Gibbons, Deloraine, Tas, Australia
Allan Hare, Stokes Valley, New Zealand
Richard Main, Hornsby, Westfield, Australia

Membership Thermometer

	Total	Count	Change
Dec. 2003	20,065		.633
Jan. 2004	19,520		(545)
Feb. 2004	19,137		(383)
Mar. 2004	19,790		.653
Apr. 2004	19,762		(28)
May 2004	19,798		.36
Jun. 2004	19,877		.79
Jul. 2004	19,789		(88)
Aug. 2004	19,823		.34
Sep. 2004	19,545		(278)
Oct. 2004	19,550		.5
Nov. 2004	19,510		(40)

ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM

Albert J. Kamm Jr. Earns MMR 340


Albert Kamm's first train was an American Flyer Burlington Zephyr which he received one Christmas. He remained with S-scale until 1941 when his father took him to see the railroad layout at Chicago's Museum of Science and Industry. His father was a well-known O-gauge modeler who belonged to the Buffalo, N.Y., Railroad Club and served as vice-president of the NMRA in 1938 and president in 1939. Since there were 500 miles between father and son, the debate about "nature or nurture" lasted for years with Buffalo friends and relatives. But that trip was the spark that moved Al to HO-scale, starting with a Varney 0-4-0T Docksider and Varney Comet and Megow freight car kits.

Living within a few blocks of the Rock Island Railroad, he used his first camera to take pictures of the trains he saw there and at the yards a few miles away. With another modeler friend he made trips to the Joliet Railroad Station to watch and photograph the Rock Island, New York Central, the Santa Fe and the Chicago & Alton Railroads as they passed through.

In the 1950s, after a trip to Colorado, Al decided to model the narrow-gauge trains of that area. Starting in HO_{n3}, he soon discovered that On₃ was more practical. When he settled in Frankfort, Ill., his home layout started out to be strictly On₃. Having inherited his father's O-scale collection, he soon added a double-

track loop that runs completely around the basement. He uses this to feature his collection of early O-scale models. Some of the earliest locomotives were handmade. They are operable and are used to pull 50-car trains for NMRA open houses.

As an adjunct to his hobby, Al has earned most of his living in railroad-centered businesses. He began with Burgess Handicraft Store and ALL-Nation Hobby Shop. Later he worked at New York Air Brake and Electromotive. Along the way he wrote articles for *Model Railroader* and drew diesel locomotive plans for them and for *Model Craftsman*. He provided the information for Dave Morgan's EMD Scrapbook History Series in *Trains*.

Al has been an NMRA member since 1946 and is a life member. During this time he served on the National Narrow Gauge Standards Committee under Bill Gardener. He has been Director at Large and Vice-President of the Midwest Region. On the Division level he has served as Superintendent, Paymaster, and Trainmaster. Al has earned AP Certificates in Motive Power, Cars, Structures, Civil Engineer, Volunteer, Author and Official. 



NMRA Contests at Cincinnati Limited

By Marty Vaughn and Ray Bilodeau

Contests? Why should I read this, I don't enter contests? But since you got past the headline, why not read on a bit further? We hope that by the time you finish you will consider entering a national contest.

The NMRA 2005 National convention, "Cincinnati Limited," will be in Cincinnati and open for our members beginning on the Fourth of July holiday. There are a lot of awards available. You could take something besides fond memories home with you. And you will have achieved a great feeling of accomplishment having shared your modeling skills with other members.

Several contests make up the NMRA National Contest. The Model Contest is one part. Here eleven categories are judged using the Achievement Program Judging Guidelines. Awards for each category include 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place plaques. An Honorable Mention certificate is awarded to models earning 87.5 points but not placing in each category. The Gold Award is given to the model judged "Best of Show."

There are also special awards sponsored by hobby manufacturers, magazines, and individuals in the model railroad community.

Popular vote categories in the model contest include "Favorite Train" and "Thumbz." Whether you enter a model in the contest or not, please come by and vote for your favorites.

The Achievement Program sponsors the "Kit-bash Award" for the best kit-bashed motive power, passenger car, freight car, and structure.

The "National Contest Judges Award" is awarded to the judging panel's all-around favorite entry. The "National Contest Chairman's Award" is chosen by the national chairman.

A module contest for modular layouts takes place at the National Train Show. Modules are judged at the show on Friday morning. Awards, including several special trophies, are presented Saturday.

There will be a judged Photo Contest with six categories judged by a group of experienced photographers. The judging methods are the same as are used by most photography associations. It is not a point system but rather consensus choices made by the judges after evaluating them for certain attributes. The photo awards include "Best of Show," 1st, 2nd and 3rd place, Honorable Mention certificates, and the Photo Contest "Chairman's Award."

For modelers who have created model railroad passes, there is a Pass Contest. Here the judges look for qualities such as aesthetics, balance & readability, color match, and unique design. Plaques are presented for 1st, 2nd and 3rd places.

Of special interest for many modelers is the revival of the Locomotive Performance Contest. Now made "lean and mean," the equipment has been rebuilt incorporating 21st-century digital technology. This is truly a unique NMRA-sponsored contest where the model builder competes on how well the model runs as compared to the prototype modeled. It is run on a test platform that measures motor efficiency, maintaining a prototype slow speed of three scale-mph or less, and how closely the model can match a fast speed as compared to the specific model's prototype, at 12 volts. The categories for this contest are Steam, Diesel, Other and Special Motor (for those models modified with special high-efficiency motors). The "Locomotive Biathlon" takes the points earned in the performance tests and combines them with points earned in the model contest. Awards in these four categories are 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place.

A switching contest is being sponsored by the Cincinnati Limited convention committee. A switching problem is designed and participants' solutions are timed. This is a single category and plaques are awarded for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd places.

Arts & Crafts contests are available for those interested in something besides model trains. Unlike the other contests, Arts & Crafts are open to all convention registrants, whether or not they are NMRA members. Plaques are awarded for Best of Show, 1st, 2nd, and 3rd places, and several Special Awards.

The rules for the national contests are simple and few. With the exception of the Arts & Crafts Contest the entrant must be an NMRA member and not a professional in the contest entered. The entry must be the sole work of the entrant. An entry form must accompany each entry. The entry cannot have won a 1st place or Gold Award/Best of Show at a previous National Contest.

The Photo Contest carries a couple of additional rules. All photos must be mounted flat on rigid material

and

must not be framed. Minimum mount size is 8" x 10". Maximum mount size is 12" x 16". Minimum print size is 5" x 7". Each entrant is limited to 10 entries with no more than five in one category.

For those with Internet access you can go to the NMRA Web-site. The left-hand information bar has information for the various contest categories. Clicking on these links will take you to information about each contest, its guidelines, awards and rules.

Well, what do you think? There is probably more to the contests than you imagined. We would also guess that each of you attending the Cincinnati Limited convention has something sitting on the shelf that you could bring along and enter in one or several categories within our contests. This is the chance to really show what you can do. So dust off, or continue to build models, photos, and craft projects and bring them to Cincinnati.

If you have any questions or comments write us at contest@hq.nmra.org.



Education Department Contacts

JAN WESCOTT, Director, e-mail: educate@HQ.NMRA.ORG
RAY BILODEAU, Asst. Director, e-mail: educateasst@HQ.NMRA.ORG
PAT HARRIMAN, AP Program, e-mail: achiev@HQ.NMRA.ORG
MARTY VAUGHN, Contest Program, e-mail: contest@HQ.NMRA.ORG
RICHARD FLOCK, JCP Youth Program, e-mail: jcp@HQ.NMRA.ORG
CLARK KOONING, MWTM Program, e-mail: mwtm@HQ.NMRA.ORG