



NMRA BULLETIN

DEPARTMENT & PROGRAM MANAGERS

Executive Department
Executive Director—Vacant
If interested in this position, contact Mike Brestel

Administrative Department Manager — Jenny Hendricks
4121 Cromwell Rd
Chattanooga, TN 37421-2119
O: 423-892-2846 Fax: 423-899-4869
e-mail: hq@hq.nmra.org

Education Department Manager — John M. Lowrance, MMR
8611 Norwich Dr.
San Antonio Texas 78217
(210) 822-2628
e-mail: educate@hq.nmra.org

Education Department Assistant Manager — Fred Bock, MMR
5923 Windhaven Dr.
San Antonio, Texas 78234-2132
(210) 653-5947 e-mail: fbock4@aol.com

Howell Day Museum Manager — John E. Roberts, MMR (O)
104 Heritage Pointe
Williamsburg, VA 23188-7894
H: 757-345-3797 O: 757-345-3118
Fax: 757-345-6944
e-mail: museum@hq.nmra.org

Information Technology Department
Tim Klevar
13570 Grove Drive #227
Maple Grove, MN 55331
(612) 293-8698
itmgr@hq.nmra.org

Kalmbach Memorial Library Manager — Brent Lambert
4121 Cromwell Rd, Chattanooga, TN 37421
O: 423-894-8144 Fax: 423-899-4869
e-mail: lib@hq.nmra.org

MAP Department (Marketing, Advertising, Promotion) Manager — Tom Draper, HLM, DSA, FA
10837 N 34th Place
Phoenix, AZ 85028-3310
H: (602) 953-1681 Fax (602) 953-0751
e-mail: map@hq.nmra.org

Meetings and Trade Show Department Manager — Henry Jordan, HLM (N)
3200 N. Leisure World Blvd #116
Silver Spring, MD 20906
O:(301) 598-0175 F:(301) 598-0176
e-mail: conv@hq.nmra.org

Member Services Department Manager — Jan Wescott
180 W Middleton Dr
Henderson, NV 89015
e-mail: mbrservices@hq.nmra.org

NMRA Communications Director
Gerry Leone, MMR
6459 Smithtown Road
Excelsior, MN 55331
gerryleone@earthlink.net

Publications Department Manager — Larry DeYoung (HO, O)
54 Waterloo Rd
Devon, PA 19333-1458
H: 610-293-9098 Fax: 610-293-1715
e-mail: pubs@hq.nmra.org

Standards and Conformance Department Manager—Didrik A. Voss, MMR (HO)
15226 12th Dr SE
Mill Creek, WA 98012-3082
O: 425-337-5222 F: 425-337-6084
e-mail: tech-chair@hq.nmra.org

Fund Raising Department Manager — Vacant
If interested in this position, contact Mike Brestel

REGION PRESIDENTS

Australasian Region—Sowerby Smith
174 Fuller Road, Chatswood, NSW 2067 Australia
H: 61 2 9411 5726 W: 61 2 9460 7600
e-mail: president@nmra.org.au

British Region—John D Spratley (aka The TOAD)
30 Lower Whitelands; RADSTOCK; BA 3.3 JW.
England / UK.
H:(1761) 434246 e-mail: brprez@hq.nmra.org.

Lone Star Region—Bill McPherson
4402 Vista Creek Dr. Rowlett, TX 75088-1818
H: (972) 463-9721
e-mail: lsrprez@hq.nmra.org

Mid-Central Region—Richard A. Briggs, MMR
4397 Hidden St Grove City, OH 43123
e-mail: mcrprez@hq.nmra.org

Mid-Continent Region—Paul Richardson, MMR
1703 NE 181st Street, Smithville, MO 64089
(H) 816-866-4043
e-mail: mcorprez@hq.nmra.org

Mid-Eastern Region—Roger Cason, MMR
410 Bayberry Ln, Jenner's Pond, West Grove, PA 19390
H: (610) 345-0901 e-mail: merprez@hq.nmra.org

Midwest Region—Bill Litkenhous
2509 Windwood Dr., Bedford, IN 47421
H: (812) 275-3634 e-mail: mwrprez@hq.nmra.org

Niagara Frontier Region—Richard Roth
PO Box 309, Waterford PA 16441-0309
814-796-0133
e-mail: nfrprez@hq.nmra.org

North Central Region—Jack Watson
31683 Hiddenbrook Drive
Chesterfield Twp., MI 48087
H: (586) 598-7407 e-mail: ncrprez@hq.nmra.org.

Northeastern Region—Kenneth May
71 Buff Cap Road, Tolland, CT 06084
H: (860) 872-3441 e-mail: nerprez@hq.nmra.org

Pacific Coast Region—Ron Plies, MMR
921 11th St., P.O. Box 950, Fortuna, CA 95540
H: (707) 725-9063 e-mail: pcrprez@hq.nmra.org

Pacific Northwest Region—Jack Hamilton, MMR
10731 Warren Rd. NW Silverdale, WA 98383
H: (360)-308-9845 e-mail: pnrprez@hq.nmra.org

Pacific Southwest Region—Ben Sevier
12793 War Horse Street, San Diego, CA 92129
H: (858) 538-9863 e-mail: psrprez@hq.nmra.org

Rocky Mountain Region—Harold S. Huber Jr.
1405 Dana Ave., Sheridan, WY 82801-2405
H: (307) 672-8471 e-mail: rmrprez@hq.nmra.org

Southeastern Region—Bob Beaty, MMR
741 Dividing Ridge Rd., Birmingham, AL 35244
H: (205) 987-2385 e-mail: serprez@hq.nmra.org

Sunshine Region—Stan Seeds, MMR
14610 Highland Harbor Ct. Ft. Myers, FL 33908-4938 (239)454-0972
e-mail: srprez@hq.nmra.org

Thousand Lakes Region—Alan Saatkamp
902 Chestnut St., Harrisburg, SD 57032
(605) 767-9743
e-mail: tlrprez@hq.nmra.org

NMRA AP CERTIFICATE REPORT
*Indicates first Certificate of Achievement
FEBRUARY 2010
GOLDEN SPIKE
Mid-Central Region
Richard Hartley, Grove City, Ohio

Midwest Region
Andy Blav, Milwaukee, Wisconsin
Danny Blav, Waukesha, Wisconsin

Sunshine Region
Jim Gore, St. Petersburg, Florida

MASTER BUILDER — CARS
Northeastern Region
Joseph Kavanagh, Lake Luzerne, New York

Pacific Coast Region
Robert Booth, Oakland, California

MASTER BUILDER — STRUCTURES
Pacific Southwest Region
Dick Roberts, El Cajon, California

Rocky Mountain Region
Harold Huber, Sheridan, Wyoming

Sunshine Region
Jim Gore, St. Petersburg, Florida

MASTER BUILDER — SCENERY
Mid-Eastern Region
John Siegle, Lynchburg, Virginia

Northeastern Region
Russell Grills, Cazenovia, New York

Sunshine Region
Jim Gore, St. Petersburg, Florida

MODEL RAILROAD ENGINEER — CIVIL
Pacific Southwest Region
Donald Ham, Escondido, California

Southeastern Region
Benton Bartlett, Brevard, North Carolina

MODEL RAILROAD ENGINEER — ELECTRICAL
Pacific Southwest Region
Donald Ham, Escondido, California

CHIEF DISPATCHER
Pacific Southwest Region
Bruce Petrarca, Goodyear, Arizona
Dick Roberts, El Cajon, California

ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM

ASSOCIATION VOLUNTEER
Pacific Coast Region
Mark Schutzer, Redwood City, California

Southeastern Region
Thomas Shallcross, Crossville, Tennessee

MODEL RAILROAD AUTHOR
Northeastern Region
Scott Dunlap, Randolph, New Jersey

MMR GROUP: All MMRs are invited to work with other MMRs by contacting Rick Shoup, MMR, at ricshoup@verizon.net.

If you have questions about the AP program or requirements, start with your local or Region AP manager. If you still have questions, contact Frank Koch at fjkoch@hotmail.com. If you prefer to write, contact Frank at 4769 Silverwood Dr., Batavia, OH 45103.



HEADQUARTERS

ADDRESS CHANGE? BACK ISSUES OR REPLACEMENT ISSUES OF SCALE RAILS?

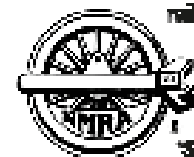
Members needing to make address changes, request back issues, or replacement issues of SCALE RAILS should contact the staff at the national headquarters in Chattanooga, Tennessee, at (423) 892-2846 or by email at nmrahq@aol.com.



It's the NMRA's 75th anniversary and we're celebrating by inviting our non-member model railroading friends to the party. You are cordially invited to attend our 75th Anniversary National Convention, even if you're not an NMRA member.* We call it our open door policy.

Visit some of the finest model railroads in the world.

Attend clinics by some of the best model railroaders there are. Tour prototype facilities, ride trains, shop at one of the world's largest train shows and enjoy some very special 75th anniversary fun. But you know how it is with open doors. Sometimes they slam shut. So visit our website and register right away while the doors are still open!



www.nmra75.org

*Some restrictions and conditions apply. See website for details.



MOVING THE NMRA INTO THE DIGITAL AGE

The Board of Directors, Officers, Department Heads, and Headquarters management team met in San Diego, California, on February 19 and 20, 2010, for the winter BOD meeting. Heading off the list of discussion topics as the organization approaches its 75th anniversary year celebration in Milwaukee this summer was the intensification of efforts to reposition the NMRA so as to deliver much more value and content via our website, nmra.org.

Although Publisher Larry DeYoung was pleased to report that a new three-year contract with White River Productions and Paired Rail RR Publications for magazine design and production services was signed at the same rates as their previous three-year contract, it remains clear that both printing and postage costs will continue to rise. Moreover, members — like everyone else in the digital age — are becoming used to having information accessible or delivered in a timelier manner than is possible by relying solely on a monthly periodical to which some members do not subscribe. And most members do not have ready access to the NMRA's vast photo archives stored at our headquarters in Chattanooga.

The reinvigorated Data Sheet program also provides an opportunity for delivering more value to all members via our website. The more technical or lengthy Data Sheets can be summarized in our magazine and then published in full in a members-only section of nmra.org. Photos that available page space does not allow to appear in print can be posted online, along with short video clips (or even virtual tours) of layouts and modeling projects.

To provide funding for the initial steps of increased website content, the NMRA recently launched the Diamond Club. (See ad on page 24.) The first task will be to begin scanning our 20,000-plus images and posting them on our website. Members can then check those low-resolution scans to see what is available, as can researchers; the latter will pay a fee to obtain high-resolution files.

To call attention to the NMRA's rapid evolution into a much more effective web content provider, the Directors approved a re-branding program that will be rolled out during the 75th anniversary convention in Milwaukee.

Support for Divisions

Evidence continues to mount that the reputation and perceived value of the NMRA as a whole as an effective organization relies primarily on the quality of services delivered at the Division level. An inactive or ineffective Division translates to a poor opinion of the entire organization.

To ensure greater consistency of value across Divisions, Bill Kaufman is heading an effort to produce a Division Handbook that will document best practices and provide specific recommendations about ways to organize, revitalize, and support a Division.

The leadership team is also closely watching the efforts of the new Michiana Division of the Midwest Region, which under the leadership of tech-savvy Superintendent Jim Six, is employing up-to-date, web-based communications practices to provide greater value to their members, most of whom were not previously NMRA members.

Scale model railroading exhibit in Sacramento

Director Charlie Getz reported that a Memorandum of Understanding has been signed with the California State Railroad Museum in Sacramento, California, to create an exhibit on scale model railroading in the CSRM Gallery area. The museum is adjacent to Old Town Sacramento, which is one of the most heavily visited tourist attractions in the Golden State. The NMRA officers and directors strongly support this effort, but it will be produced and funded by a separate legal entity, the National Model Railroad Museum, Inc. No NMRA dues or revenues from product sales will be used. Some exhibits donated to the Howell Day Model Railroad Museum (most stored in Chattanooga) will be used in the Gallery exhibit.

The new museum will conduct a campaign to raise the significant funding needed to produce a professionally designed display focusing on scale model railroading. Our expectation is that most of the funding will come from the model railroad industry, which will most directly benefit from this public exhibit.

The long-term objective to have a separate scale model railroad museum remains, but that is a much larger and vastly more expensive undertaking that remains a distant goal.

New campaign regulations

The Board will hear a detailed proposal for updated regulations regarding campaigns for National offices at the annual BOD meeting on Milwaukee.

Large-scale standards

Standards and Conformance Department head Didrik Voss reported that he has been working with the major manufacturers of Large Scale model railroad equipment that operates on No. 1 (45mm) gauge track to achieve greater compatibility in coupler height and interoperability. A draft Technical Report of Large Scale Couplers has been uploaded to the NMRA website (nmra.org) for review and comment by the membership. The proposed Recommended Practice in this document will be considered for adoption at the Milwaukee BOD meeting in July.

After extensive coordination with Large Scale manufacturers, the final version of Track & Wheel Standards (S-3.2, S-3.3, S-4.2, S-4.3) was submitted and approved by the BOD. A proposal to establish an International Governance Board to develop model railroad standards was discussed informally. No action was taken at this time.

Membership retention

Communications director Gerry Leone presented early results of an ongoing survey to determine why some members did not renew their memberships. The survey will continue for another six months and be discussed at the annual BOD meeting in Milwaukee.

Future conventions

Contracts are in place for National Conventions through 2013: Milwaukee this year, Sacramento in 2011, Grand Rapids in 2012, and Atlanta in 2013. Host groups from three cities in the U.S. and Canada have already indicated that they plan to present bids for the 2014 convention at the annual BOD meeting prior to the Milwaukee convention.

The Board remains concerned about the cost/value proposition for conventions, but host groups for all future conventions report progress on this front. A wide variety of recommendations from shorter conventions to smaller venues have been discussed, but there is still no consensus on a one-size-fits-all format. As host groups employ cre-

ative ways to enhance value or reduce costs, the effects will be evaluated against attendance figures and member reactions.

Complicating the issue is the balance between the cost of space for clinics, SIG groups, model displays and contests, etc., and the total number of convention hotel room-nights paid for by attendees. A shorter convention (or rooms reserved at outlying hotels and motels) decreases the room-night total, which increases the charges for the support facilities, in turn increasing the registration fee.

Attending a National Convention requires spending a significant amount of personal time and money, and many members also bring their significant others or even entire families. The Board is therefore exploring ways to make the convention a part of a more extensive vacation trip, perhaps planned by a certified travel agent (preferably a member or spouse of a member) with expertise in rail-related travel.

Candidates sought for Vice President

Vice President (and former President) Allen Pollock announced that he will resign effective with the BOD meeting prior to the Milwaukee convention. Per NMRA Regulations, the BOD will select a replacement at the annual BOD meeting in Milwaukee. Members interesting in being considered for the remaining two-year portion of Allen's term should immediately send qualifications statements to Secretary Bob Gangwish.

Al Kamm, Jr., and Willie Pollock honored

The meeting was adjourned in honor and memory of Al Kamm, Jr., a nationally known modeler and author and a longtime supporter of the NMRA, and Vice President Allen Pollock's son, Willie, who died unexpectedly in February.

HEADQUARTERS

NOTICE OF ELECTIONS

The following NMRA Board of Directors positions are open for election in 2011:

- 1. Central District Director;
- 2. Canadian District Director; and
- 3. Regional Advisory Council (RAC) Director.

Please check Article III, paragraph 12, of the NMRA Executive Handbook, EHB, lo-

cated at http://www.nmra.org/national/organization/nmra_organization.html for the extent of the districts affected. Qualifications for candidates are listed in the EHB.

All submissions of candidates' names for consideration by the Nominations Committee for the Central District Director shall be submitted to Didrik Voss, Chairman of the Nominations Committee, davoss@pvmtengr.com, no later than July 30, 2010.

Nominations for the Canadian District Director are managed by the Canadian Nominating Committee. Contact Clark Kooning, MMR, Canadian Regional Director, candir@hq.nmra.org, for more information.

Nominations for the Regional Advisory Council Director are managed by the Regional Advisory Council. Contact Bob Ferguson, RAC Director, racdir@hq.nmra.org for more information.

Candidates may wish to run for these positions by petition and not be subjected to the decisions of the respective Nominations Committees. Requirements for submitting by petition are contained in the EHB. All submissions by petition shall be received by the Secretary NMRA no later than September 15, 2010.

IN MEMORIAM

ALBERT J. KAMM JR., MMR 340

It is with great sadness that we report the passing of Al Kamm, Jr. MMR, age 79. Al was a well known author and EMD subject matter expert with many articles and drawings published in the model railroad press and *Trains* magazine. Al modeled in O and On3 after migrating from HO and HOn3. He was a life member of the NMRA and served as National Narrow Gauge Standards Committee Chairman and held several division level offices. He received Master Model Railroad Certificate No. 340. He was a charter member of the Midwest Narrow Gaugers.

Albert's first train was an American Flyer Burlington *Zephyr*, which he received one Christmas. He remained with that scale until 1941 when his father took him to see the railroad layout at the Museum of Science and Industry. His father was a well-known O gauge modeler who belonged to the Buffalo, New York Railroad Club and was vice president of the NMRA in 1938 and president in 1939. Since there were 500 miles between father and son, the

debate about "nature and/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 Dockside 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 Rock Island, New York Central, Santa Fe, and 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 HOn3, he soon discovered that On3 was a more practical size and disposed of his HOn3 equipment.

While he had a layout when he lived in Kankakee, Illinois, his subsequent moves did not lend themselves to layouts. When he settled in Frankfort, Illinois, his home layout started out to be strictly On3. Having inherited his father's O scale collection and being a fan of the Rock Island, he soon added a double track loop that ran completely around the basement. He used this trackage to feature his collection of early O scale models, both locomotives and rolling stock, from 1935 to present. Some of the earliest locomotives were handmade. They were operable and were used to pull 50-car trains for NMRA open houses.

As an adjunct to his hobby, Al 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. He retired from Electromotive as an Air Brake Modification Engineer after more than 27 years.

Along the way he wrote articles for *Model Railroader Magazine* and drew diesel locomotive plans for that publication and for *Model Craftsman*. He provided the information for Dave Morgan's EMD Scrapbook History Series in *Trains* magazine, which was later published as the "EMD Scrapbook" in 1971.

Al had been an NMRA member since 1946 and was a life member. During this time he served on the National Narrow Gauge Standards Committee under Bill Gardener. He had been Director at Large and Vice-President of the Midwest Region. On the Division level he served as Superintendent, Paymaster, and Trainmaster.