
❖ Call Board ❖

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July 2003

Super Saying

Super Saying, June 2003

The NMRA National Convention in Toronto will be July 13th-19th. The National Train Show is cancelled, but the convention committee has announced The Maple Leaf Train Show, to be held July 19th and 20th. Admission will be free to convention registrants. See the convention web site (www.ml2003.com) or the NMRA web site (www.nmra.org) for details.

World's Greatest Hobby issued a press release on June 5th in which they announced the Top Ten Model Railroading cities in America, ranked according to their concentration of model railroaders. The release says that over 500,000 American adults spend \$500 million annually on model railroading. The ten cities named were, in order, Milwaukee, WI; Pittsburgh, PA; Philadelphia, PA; Cleveland, OH; Washington, DC; Cincinnati, OH; Boston, MA; Seattle, WA; Kansas City, MO; and Chicago, IL. Three of the ten cities, Pittsburgh, Cleveland and Cincinnati are in one NMRA Region – ours!

On June 7th George Ardwin, Har-

old Boat, Benny Campbell, Richard Davoust, Peter Guise, Dick Kehl and I worked on Division 3's N-scale layout. Harold and Benny are with the Greene County Historical Society, which has generously let us use the living room of the society's cottage for the layout construction and storage. We installed the tunnel roofs, finished laying track, wired all of it, and used a locomotive to test parts of it. The remaining track was still obstructed with tee-pins that held it in place while the glue dried, so we'll test it next session. We soldered all the rail joints, and installed four sets of feeder wires, so the electrical system has built-in redundancy. That's probably good, because the wiring won't be accessible once the scenery is finished. At the next session we'll test the rest of the track and start constructing the terrain. Please join us; we have a lot of fun. The layout is in the small white house next to the society's main brick building. Work sessions in July will be the 12th and 26th, 1-5 p.m. They will be on the second and fourth Saturdays, July through October (except maybe on the Labor Day Weekend).

Richard Davoust arranged a terrific tour for us for the June meeting: a visit to the Dupps plant in Germantown. Dupps is the nation's largest supplier of rendering equipment, and the company ships via rail some very heavy machines (up to 300,000 pounds). We learned that rendering equipment breaks down animal parts, and cooks it for use in soaps, cosmetics and many other (non-food) products. When Conrail discontinued rail service through Germantown in 1982, Dupps bought the 5-mile segment from Germantown to Carlisle, where it connects to CSX. That short stretch of track has three bridges. Dupps owns a small GE diesel-electric locomotive and several flat cars for shipping equipment, and for moving it around within the plant. During the afternoon of our tour, it rained pretty hard at times, but there was a lot to see and learn inside the plant, as well as outside. It was a very interesting tour.

Many thanks to those of you who stopped by our house after the tour to see the layouts we've begun. Your comments and suggestions were most helpful, and we

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enjoyed your company very much.

Our July division meeting will be on the 27th, a week later than usual, to avoid conflicting with the National Convention and Maple Leaf Train Show.

2005 National Convention
Layouts Wanted

Dave Holl is coordinating a bus tour of Dayton layouts for the 2005 NMRA National Convention in Cincinnati. He would like to have layouts that can accommodate 30-40 people at one time. Dates and times would be determined based on response. Division 3 is considering a drive it yourself tour on the last weekend of the convention. More information will be published as it becomes available.

Cookies and Layouts Needed

We have been treated to coffee and cookies the last several meetings. We need volunteers to bring the cookies. Bruce Albright will bring the coffee. Contact Bruce (937) 426-3091) to sign up to bring cookies. Bruce is also coordinating layouts for after meeting visits. We would like to know which layouts would be available so that we can find meeting locations near them for next year.

Contest

July Scene

You are allowed up to 3 entries per contest. You do not have to be a member of the NMRA to participate in the popular vote contest. This is the last contest for the model year. We will start a new contest year in September. Congratulations and thanks to everyone who participated this year.

Address Change Notices

If you move, please send us a change of address. It costs \$.79 for each returned Call Board.

**No Meetings or *Call Board*
in August
See You in September**



World's Greatest Hobby Proclaims America's Top Ten Model Railroad Cities

-Mayoral Presentations Signal our Fervent Fascination with Toy Trains-

Waukesha, WI (June 5, 2003) - Celebrating America's enduring love affair with the railroad, the World's Greatest Hobby announces the Top Ten Model Railroading cities across the country. Surveying the American cities with the highest concentration of model railroaders, the list appears as the pastime is enjoying a renaissance among Baby Boomers while cultivating new audiences of younger enthusiasts.

"Railroads fueled America's growth, and are an essential part of our national mythology," said Fred Hamilton of the Model Railroad Industry Association. "Through model railroading, you can salute that heritage while engaging the whole family. With this list, we acknowledge the cities that are helping the hobby reach a level of popularity not seen since the hey-day of Lionel."

A representative of the World's Greatest Hobby-a five-year campaign to increase awareness about model railroading-will present the mayor of each city with a plaque saluting its contributions to the hobby. The cities are:

1. Milwaukee, WI
2. Pittsburgh, PA
3. Philadelphia, PA
4. Cleveland, OH
5. Washington, DC
6. Cincinnati, OH
7. Boston, MA
8. Seattle, WA
9. Kansas City, MO
10. Chicago, IL

Currently, over 500,000 American adults spend \$500 million annually on model railroading. Their passion ranges from collecting classic toy trains to embracing garden railroads and pioneering the latest high-tech advances, but they are united in their zeal for the pastime through initiatives such as the World's Greatest Hobby campaign.

The World's Greatest Hobby enjoys support from every strata of the model railroading world-from manufacturers to individual hobbyists. Over 1,000 model railroaders have volunteered as Ambassadors to share their love of the hobby in presentations to community and civic organizations. They are aided in their presentations by a video starring actor and enthusiast Michael Gross. Additionally, 1,067 model train clubs and 721 hobby shops participate in the outreach program.

Corporate sponsorship for the campaign has reached the seven-figure mark with participating manufacturers from the full whole spectrum of the hobby-including Atlas Model Railroad Co., Bachmann Industries, Digitrax, Kalmbach Publishing, Kato USA, Life-Like Products, Märklin, Micro-Trains Line, Model Rectifier Corporation and Wm. K. Walthers. They are joined by non-manufacturer sponsors such as the Great Midwest Train Show and Greenberg Shows, Kalmbach Publishing and the Model Railroad Industry Association.

What is the NMRA?

The NMRA is a non-profit educational association whose purpose is to promote and teach the art and craft of model railroading.

What is the NMRA's Mission in the world of Model Railroading?

The role of the NMRA is to lead ongoing efforts to **set the standards** for evolving technologies.

We will **educate** our members and provide a repository of information for hobbyists to learn the facts and skills they require for their ongoing development.

The NMRA will **archive** and expand reference material required by our members and provide research assistance for their benefit.

The NMRA will provide an atmosphere of **fellowship** by offering members the opportunity to communicate, develop and share their skills.

But the NMRA is more than a Mission Statement and the Benefits of membership are many.

The NMRA is People...

The NMRA is you and your fellow modelers, sharing and learning all the fascinating aspects of model railroading. Increased knowledge and enjoyment of the hobby are thus a direct benefit of NMRA membership.

The NMRA is Fun...

Most NMRA Divisions hold monthly meetings featuring interesting and informative clinics and programs. Semi-annual regional conventions are staged throughout the world and each summer the NMRA national convention brings together upwards of 2500 modelers for a week of clinics, contests, layout tours, prototype excursions, a train show and dozens of other exciting activities. There is fun for the whole FAMILY.

The NMRA is Member Services...

NMRA membership entitles you to receive a multitude of services all targeted towards expanding your hobby enjoyment as well as the value of your hobby dollar.

The NMRA is Engineering...

When the NMRA was founded in 1935, model railroading was in its infancy. Individual manufacturers produced materials according to their own theories and with virtually no regard for interchangeability. The NMRA was the organization that established *Standards and Recommended Practices* which the hobby industry readily adopted.

The NMRA is The A. C. Kalmbach Memorial Library...

The A. C. Kalmbach Memorial Library is the NMRA's internationally recognized reference and research center. Since its founding in 1986, the library has answered thousands of questions about model and prototype railroading, questions you may have had at one time or another: questions about color schemes, car numbers, scale drawings, how-to articles in modeling magazines, you name it!

The NMRA is the Achievement Program...

The NMRA's Achievement Program, or AP for short, is designed to give recognition to those members, who have displayed a high degree of modeling skill and service to the hobby and to the NMRA. While participation is strictly voluntary, all NMRA members are welcome and encouraged to participate in the AP.

The NMRA is Conventions...

Every year the NMRA hosts a national convention in the summer. These conventions are the premier gathering place of modelers from around the world and offer educational seminars by recognized experts in the hobby. You have a chance to compete in the contests with the best model railroaders in the world.

Some of the Benefits of Membership

Monthly N.M.R.A Bulletin

Region & Division newsletters

N.M.R.A. World Wide Web site

Region & Division Web Pages

N.M.R.A Standards & Recommended Practices

Local Activities that include:Clinics given by modelers for modelers - Photo and Slide Contests - Model Contests - Operating Layouts - Dealers Tables - Layout Tours and Open Houses