



The Lantern



Volume 2 Issue 1

Division 10, Mid Central Region

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**National
Model
Railroad
Association**

The Lantern is a monthly publication of Division 10, Mid Central Region, National Model Railroad Association. Opinions expressed herein are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect those of Division 10, the Mid Central Region, the NMRA, or anyone else.

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Message From The Superintendent

Our December clinic by George Campbell on "Lettering with Dry Transfers" was a great success. Everyone who attended the meeting left with new knowledge and tips on techniques that will save time or money when detailing rolling stock in the future. Thanks George!

We had a good turnout of members and I was especially pleased that we had at least six visitors attend. They had seen our flyers in hobby stores or had stopped by our booth at the Thanksgiving train show in Lexington. Hopefully they will become members in the months to come. If you have friends who are interested in model trains and visiting layouts please bring them to a meeting as our guest.

After the clinic we toured the excellent HO layout of Lou Jaquith. It is well designed work in progress that gave all of us some great ideas we could use as we plan and construct our own railroads. I hope I'm not the only modeler now saving the

contents of tea bags to be used as ground cover. Thanks Lou for the ideas and tools you gave visitors.

Our January meeting is scheduled one week later than usual to avoid a conflict with the yearend celebration. It will be at the Beaumont Library on Jan. 9th at 2PM. The clinic will be "How to Build and Use a Resistance Soldering Unit" by Joe Holbrook. If you ever have had a tough soldering job on brass or other small delicate pieces of metal, this clinic is for you. After the meeting we will have two layouts on tour in the southern part of town. Mike Armstrong has both HO and N layouts and Pat Gerstle has one of the most unique layouts in our area. He will tell you a little about it at the end of the clinic.

We have an excellent schedule of clinics in the first half of 2000. Please check the schedule in this month's "Lantern" for the dates and locations of meetings, clinics and tours in Lexington and the Danville area. A "Live Steam" outdoor event is being planned where you will have the opportunity to smell real coal smoke from a Southern PS4 in 1 1/2" scale and Joe Holbrook's diesel. Both engines will be pulling a consist of cars loaded

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**SEE OUR WEBSITE
AT:**

[http://nmra-
division10.railfan.net](http://nmra-division10.railfan.net)

Message From The Superintendent

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with happy modelers having fun. You might have to throw a switch or be the rear brakeman but it is fun! We are still working to get one or more garden railroads on tour by the summer. They are becoming one of the fastest growing gauges in the hobby.

Speaking of "steam," in addition to the Proto 2000 USSR 2-8-8-2 that is getting rave reviews, Bachmann has announced an Ho 80-Ton 3-Truck Shay and a Baldwin 2-10-0 Russian Decapod steam locomotive. Look for them in the fall of 2000. You read about it first in The Lantern.

We are still looking for active participants in the Division. If you are interested in chairing a committee, please give me a call. We can use your help and our ultimate success depends entirely on your involvement as an active member.

Fred Plymale

Witless vs Clueless

Rivets O'Reilly and Larry Loungecar

Rivets: Hey, Larry, how's the layout doin'?

Larry: Pretty good, Rivets; but I've been tryin' to work out some operations bugs. I gave a call to Johnny the other day, and...

Rivets: Johnny! You asked JOHNNY about operations? His idea of train operations is pulling Thomas The Tank around the floor on a string and saying, "Choo-choo! Choo-choo!"

Larry: Aw, c'mon, Rivets. He's not that bad. Anyway, I've been wantin' to get into runnin' a couple a' trains at a time, and I've been askin' around...

Rivets: A couple a' trains! What kind of railroader are you, anyway, Larry? You ought to be runnin' LOTS of trains!

Larry: Well, how do you do it, Rivets? How do you see 'em all and keep up with what they're doin'? How many trains do you run?

Rivets: _For gosh sakes, Larry! I can't actually see 'em! I've got a twelve-layer layout, with trains on each level, plus 47 hidden staging

yards! All I can actually see would be the top level, and I'd have to climb up on a ladder to do it.

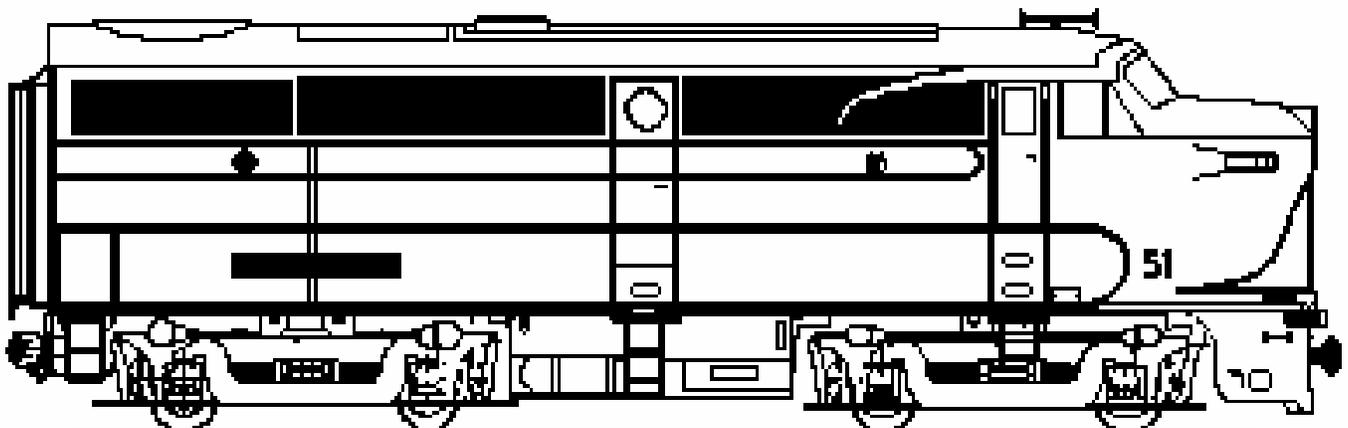
Larry: Well, how do you keep 'em all goin', Rivets?

Rivets: Block detection, automatic signalin', Digital Command Control and a crew of two for each train, plus a central dispatcher, twelve towermen, and three hostlers - it works out to about 40 or 50 people altogether.

Larry: Oh. Sounds like it gets pretty crowded, Rivets...

Rivets: Yep, Larry, you got that right. But I'm takin' out the South wall of the basement, and puttin' in a tunnel over to my neighbor's basement; boy, I hope he never goes down there and finds out what I'm doin'...

Larry: Yeah, well see ya later, Rivets. I think I'm gettin' a headache. Think I'll go over to see Johnny for a while...



News, Events & Announcements

Thanks:

- to **Wendell Greer** for taking notes at the November meeting.

- to **Fred Plymale and Mike Armstrong** for their efforts in selling the equipment donated to the Division. Their efforts produced a nice **commission**, as reflected in the Treasury Report below.

December Meeting Notes:

The December 1999 meeting was called to order at 2:00pm on Sunday, the 5th, by Superintendent Fred Plymale. **Guests** in attendance were Mike Cummins, Peter Bourne, Ron Kercheval, Doug and Jane Clarke, and Ian Smith, all of whom were given information and invited to join the NMRA.

David Greer's acceptance of the job of **Achievement Program Chairman** was announced, and he was also presented with the Golden Spike Award. David also hosted a layout tour in November. Thanks for all your participation, David!

David will also be a qualified **judge** for Achievement Program recognition, as will Joe Holbrook, Fred Plymale, Ray Grosser and David's dad, Wendell Greer.

Coming meetings were discussed, with plans for January to include a clinic by Joe Holbrook on resistance soldering, with tours of Mike Armstrong's and Pat Gerstler's layouts. See "Around the Bend" for a rundown on future meetings.

Fred solicited more **volunteers** to host layout tours and to conduct clinics, stating that the goal of these events is to further model interests and skills, and to get more people involved in the hobby and working on projects toward AP recognition. Remember, the AP program is not about judging one model against another in a contest, but about judging any model against a set of standards set forth by the NMRA and designed to be achievable by any member - **we could all be winners** in the same category at the same event.

Complimentary remarks were made about *The Lantern*, both the newsletter and the

website.

The clinic was a **class act** by George Campbell of Campbell Models, on painting and lettering rolling stock, using aerosol cans for the painting and dry transfers for the lettering. Here's something we can all do inexpensively with great results. George operates his business from his home in Winchester, Ky. Thanks very much, George.

Reminders:

The Lantern is your newsletter - don't be hesitant about sending in submissions for publication, or your ideas to make it more useful and entertaining.

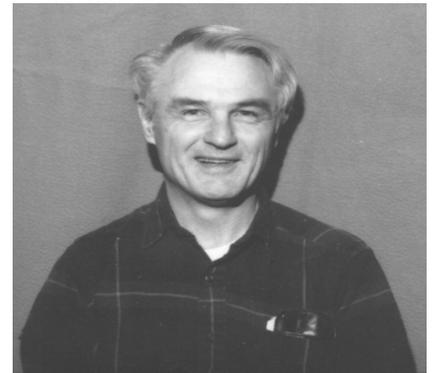
We are still in need of chairpersons for several committees.

The Treasury Report:

11/01/99 Ending Bal.	\$151.66
Income: Donations	60.00
Patches & Pins	12.00
Estate Sale Gross	1142.00
Subtotal	\$1365.66
Expenses: Checks	9.74
Estate Sale to Donor	970.70
Newsletter Copies	10.00
Supplies	7.41
Postage	33.00
Total Expenses	\$1030.85
11/30/99 Ending Bal.	\$334.81

MEMBER PROFILES

Pete Birdsong



Pete lives at 2308 The Woods Lane, Lexington, Kentucky, and is a systems analyst at Lexmark. He and his wife, Caggy, have two daughters, one working in Chicago, and one a sophomore at the University of Dayton. Pete also has two other daughters, one in New York and one in Pennsylvania.

Pete has a basement layout in N scale, favoring the roads of the Southeast, plus a small Lionel trolley layout for under the Christmas tree. His main interest is operations, particularly switching and wayfreights, but also mainline unit trains and passenger consists. He started with a card system, but currently uses a computer program for managing operations.

His most recent project was a major expansion of the N-scale layout, and while it is operational, now he is trying to do something about the "early plywood" scenery.

Another major project for the future is a possible conversion from conventional cab control to Digital Block Control.

Pete has been an NMRA member for some time, and is Secretary and Newsletter Publisher for Division 10, and a member of the Bluegrass Railroad Club, where he has participated for several years in the annual modular displays at the Kentucky Horsepark from Thanksgiving to Christmas.

AROUND THE BEND....

January

NMRA MCR Div. 10: **9th**
 Note: 2nd Sunday instead of 1st ,
 because of the holidays. Beaumont
 Center Library in Lexington
 Clinic: Joe Holbrook on resistance
 soldering;
 Tours: Mike Armstrong & Pat
 Gerstle

February

NMRA MCR Div. 10: 6th
 Eagle Creek Library, 101 N. Eagle
 Creek Rd., Lexington, off
 Richmond Rd. East of Man-O-War;
 Clinic: Mike Baskette
 Tours: Pete Birdsong & Franklin
 Miller

March

NMRA MCR Div. 10: 5th,

Beaumont Center Library;
 Clinic: TBD; Tours: David Drake

April

NMRA MCR Div. 10: **1st**
(Saturday) Danville, KY;
 Clinic: Ray & Renee Grosser;
 Tours: Bob Lawson, John Bowling,
 maybe a third

May

1. NMRA MCR Div. 10: 14th
 J.O Johnson farm;
 Clinic and tour: J.O. Johnson -
1 1/2" LIVE STEAM
2. MCR Div. 4
 New Century Express:
 May18-21, 2000; Medina, OH
 Linda Atherton, Registrar,
 337 University St.,
 Middleburg Ht., OH 44130 -440-
 234-4176 (between 5 & 9pm)

NEXT MEETING:

Sunday, January 9th at 2:00pm
 in the Beaumont Shopping
 Center Library on Harrodsburg
 Road, at New Circle Rd (Route
 4). in Lexington.

Clinic:

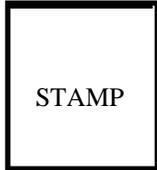
Joe Holbrook - Resistance
 Soldering

Tours: Mike Armstrong & Pat
 Gerstle

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