



The Lantern



Volume 3 Issue 9

Division 10, Mid Central Region

September, 2001



**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.

Mid-Central Region Officers

Trustee:

Michael C. Brestel
3208 Vittmer Avenue
Cincinnati, OH 45238
513-661-2141
mbrestel@eos.net

President:

Marty Vaughn
557 Brice Road
Reynoldsburg, OH 43068
614-860-9023
WmMVAughn@aol.com

Vice President:

Lou Dalton
411 Deerfield Drive
Cranberry Twp, PA 16066
724-776-9724
daltonlg@aol.com

Secretary:

Lou Adler
686 Audra Court
Gahanna, OH 43230-6101
614-475-5668
Lou.adler@us.abb.com

Treasurer:

Richard A. Flock
337 Elm Drive
Greensburg, PA 15601
724-850-8882
Rflock@bellatlantic.net

Division 10 Officers and Board

Superintendent:

Fred Plymale
3463 Snaffle Road
Lexington, KY 40513
859-223-7270
f729@aol.com

Asst. Superintendent:

Wendell Greer
212 Southpoint Drive
Lexington, KY 40515
859-296-8731
Dewvalley@juno.com

Secretary:

Pete Birdsong
2308 The Woods Lane
Lexington, KY 40502
859-268-1462
rrpete@prodigy.net

Treasurer:

Mike Armstrong
4809 Agape Drive
Lexington, KY 40514
859-296-4746
pika@gte.net

Board of Directors:

Mike Baskette
922 Mason-Headley Road
Lexington, KY 40504
859-278-8150
carworks@gte.net

Board of Directors:

Alan Brock
1348 Prather Road
Lexington, KY 40502
859-269-4030
abooguy@aol.com

Board of Directors:

Franklin Miller
2024 Bridgeport Drive
Lexington, KY 40502
859-269-3205
fkmiller@worldnet.att.net

Board of Directors:

Bob Richardson
3433 Grasmere Drive
Lexington, KY 40503
859-219-1583
Brich948@aol.com

Message From The Superintendent

We are headed into a very busy but fun month with a return to Bob Lawson's in Danville on Sunday Sept. 2 starting at 1 PM with a lunch of hamburgers and hot dogs preceding the first clinic on planning and building small dioramas at 2 PM. A second clinic will be held if needed to accommodate all members. In addition to Bob's layout we hope to have John Bowling's layout open and the possibility of Dick Hammond opening his layout for scheduled small groups. It will be a great modeling day in Danville. Plan on attending.

September 14 will be a setup day for our Somerset show with the Chamber of Commerce. We need all the help we can get to help with set up on Friday afternoon and again all day Saturday and Sunday. We expect to have another estate to liquidate and need members to help sell the items as well as talk to potential new NMRA members at our membership booth. This was a very good show last year

(Continued on page 2)

Editor's Notes

Congratulations to **Bill Robbins** on his first, and very successful, Operations session. Everyone had a good time, and we're looking forward to the next session on September 4. The second August session was at my place on the 21st. Looking ahead, I'll need to move the November session at my place from the third Tuesday to the second, November 13th. And I will not have a September or December session at my house.

The next issue of *The Lantern*, to be published in late October, will
(Continued on page 2)

[Return](#) to Previous Site

P A G E	Highlights & Index
1	Officer Listing Superintendent's Message Editor's Notes Highlights & Index
2	Company Store Treasurer's Report Committee Chairs Super & Editor, Continued
3	Support Your Hobby Shops Patrons
4	Super & Editor, Continued Bring & Brag
5	Member Profile: <i>Ron Saylor</i> Witless vs. Clueless
6	Around the Bend
Ins	Convention Notes; Map to Bob Lawson's



“STUFF” & OPPORTUNITIES

Fred Plymale and Mike Armstrong occasionally have or know of *members’ overstock* situations and other opportunities to acquire or dispose of “stuff.” Get in touch with them to find out if anything is currently available. These liquidations, generally via a web auction, bear a 15 to 20% fee.

In addition, *The Lantern* is in a position to advertise your “overstock” items, for a fee of 10%.

Contact Pete Birdsong to arrange for an ad, or Mike or Fred for liquidations.

Also, it’s a good idea to come to the Tuesday night meetings. Quite often someone will bring in something no longer needed, and it is usually bought on the spot.

NOTE:

As reflected in the table at right, Wendell Greer has agreed to be the new chairman of our Member Aid Committee.

In addition to being a Master Model Railroader, Wendell is a graduate electrical engineer and has kept up with modern technology with the addition of Digitrax to his workbench, soon to be on his layout.

If you would like to volunteer to help Wendell, or have a modeling problem you’d like help with, please give him a call.

(Continued from page 1)
Editor’s Notes

cover November and December.

There’s been a change of rules regarding the Kalmbach Library research facility, with NMRA members now being charged \$15.00/hr for research (\$30.00 for non-members), plus copy fees. See details in an upcoming *Bulletin*.

Speaking of the *Bulletin*, the August issue includes acknowledgement of Golden Spike awards for **Fred Plymale, Bill**

(Continued on page 4)

Committee Chairs

Achievement Program	David Greer: 859 296 4313
Advertising & Programs	Open
Community Activities	Bob Richardson 859 219 1583
Company Store	Mike Baskette 859 278 8150
Contests	Alan Brock 859 269-3250
Conventions & Shows	Wendell Greer 859 272 8731
Estate Liquidations	Mike Armstrong 859 296 4746
Member Aid	Wendell Greer 859 272 8731
Membership	Franklin Miller 859 269 3205
Newsletter Editor	Pete Birdsong 859 268 1462
Photographer	John Gorman 859 269 3900
Webmaster	Pete Birdsong 859 268 1462

(Continued from page 1)
Superintendent’s message

and will be even better in 2001. Lots of operating displays, plenty of vendors with plenty of train items to sell. Bargains for everyone! If you want a table to sell some of your surplus trains, there are some left for \$10.00 each. Don’t delay, call to reserve one today. If you can’t make it, the division will sell your overstocks for you at a measly 20% commission.

I’m off to Columbus this Sunday Aug. 19 to meet with NMRA Executive Vice President, John Roberts, Mike Brestel, our MCR Trustee and the rest of our regional board to learn what steps have been taken to assure the future management of our organization is much more professional. Open communication with all members and the publishing of the voting record of Officers and Trustee’s in The Bulletin is high on my list of actions that need to be implemented to maintain accountability of our elected representatives and keep us better informed, especially at election time. If you have suggestions, please let me hear from you and I will see they get to the proper authority.

Back to the Fun of Modeling! Check out AROUND THE BEND for our schedule for the rest of the year. New clinics, new layout tour, and we will have a significant presence at GATS in November. Your able assistance in making any of our

(Continued on page 4)



- MTH & Lionel Complete Sets
- Track & accessories, Box Cars, T-Shirts
- Layaway available
- MC/VISA/Discover

209 Rosemont Garden
Lexington, KY 40503
(859) 278-8082

Toll free: 877 609-0695
FAX: (859) 873-6863

E-mail: : bberky209@aol.com

**Special
Orders
Available**

Summer Hours:
Tue. - Fri.: 1:00 to 5:00
Saturday: 11:00 to 3:30
Sunday & Monday: Closed



**Dealer for brass at
20% off retail:
Overland Models
Hallmark
Key Imports**

**Garden Springs Shopping Center
Mon-Sat 10:00 - 9:00; Sun 1:00 - 7:00**

**820 Lane Allen Road
859 276 4240**

**Lexington, KY 40504
1 888 797 3938**

Support Our Local Hobby Shops

Our advertisers are supporting us with their ads, so let's support them with our business! A strong retail network is vital to keeping the hobby visible to the public, and provides valuable help to newcomers. By our patronage of their stores, they are able to continue bringing more people into the hobby, and promoting our organization.....

win-win!!

(Continued from page 2)
 Superintendent's message

activities a success is welcomed.

See you in Danville.

Fred

TREASURER'S REPORT

Jun 30/Jul 1	3880.60
July Income	870.39
July Expense	736.28
July 31	4014.71

(Continued from page 2)
 Editor's Notes

Paulsell and Robin Grider, and Railroad Author for **Wendell Greer**. Congratulations again, guys!

The Bring & Brag contests are a lot of fun. I suggested I was going to bring 40 passenger cars for this month's contest, in order to get 80 points and forge into first place. As a result, there has been a rules clarification: you can enter as many models as you want, but you get points for only one, unless multiple entries get placement points - i.e., points for first, second or third place. See the results for August in the next column.

Thanks to **Tom Brough** for hosting the August layout tour. I can't believe this was my first time at Tom's, but it was well worth the wait.

Thanks also to **Mike Armstrong** for this month's Witless & Clueless article.

Pete

BRING & BRAG

High to low or tie:	August	YTD
Fred Plymale	3	12
Pete Birdsong	2	10
Mark Hunt	5	10
Joe Baker	4	4
John Gorman	2	4
Lou Jaquith	0	2
Not Identified	0	2
Mike Armstrong	0	1

The contest is really picking up steam, with more entries and consequently more fun. Gone are the days of winning by default! Be sure YOU get in on the action and fun...

Remaining events:

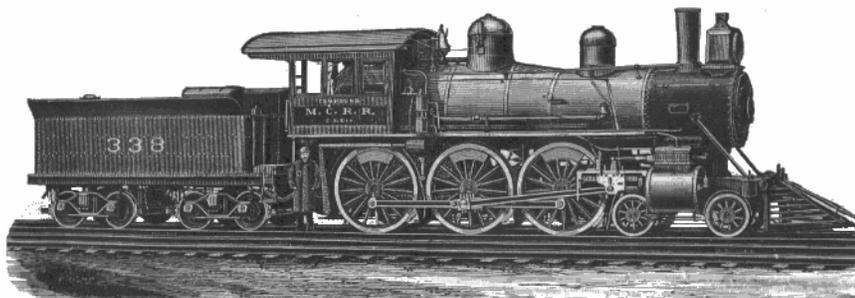
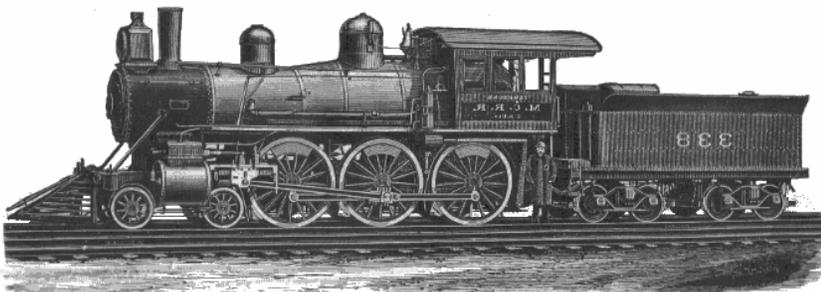
September—Passenger Cars

October—Urban Building

November—Caboose

December—Free Category.

See the April Lantern, or contact chairman Alan Brock, for a refresher on the rules!



MEMBER PROFILES

Ron Saylor



Ron Saylor lives on his farm at 2623 old US 25 in Berea, Kentucky, with his wife, Katy. Their children, Owen and Jennifer, are grown, but live close by, as do the grandchildren.

Katy and Ron are both retired school teachers, in addition to running the farm, where they usually have a few hundred head of cattle to attend. Ron's former career as a shop teacher serves him well in constructing model railroads, and keeps him in great demand for advice and help on anything mechanical, electrical, or otherwise associated with building a model railroad, advice which he always seems happy to provide.

Ron's main interest is in N-scale, but he is also an avid practitioner in HO and O standard. His empire consists of three levels a-building: N-scale at table height, HO above that, and the finished O gauge near the ceiling, all circling a phenomenal layout room in the upstairs of a building constructed specifically to house the layouts (with a ga-

rage thrown in on the first floor), and a "crew lounge" and workshop adjoining the layout room. He also has several N-trak modules, and is very active in all phases of the hobby.

Ron is a past Vice-president and President of the Bluegrass Railroad Club, a frequent host of the Tuesday night informal group, and has hosted numerous construction sessions for N-trak modules, children's steps for the Southern Lights displays, and other projects.

When not working the farm, Ron's current projects are finishing the HO layout, and after that, starting the N-scale level.

Witless vs Clueless

*Rivets O'Reilly and Larry Loungecar*Convention
"Hangovers"

Larry: Wow! What a trip to the NMRA St. Louis convention that was. And the National Train Show was outta sight. You should'a been there, Rivets!

Rivets: I was there, Larry. Twenty four layout tours in three days! Man, I never saw so much great modeling.

Larry: Yeah, I know. Did you see the module with all the animation? I'm gonna do something like that. I went to eight clinics, and I know I can model like those guys.

Rivets: Larry, I don't want to bust your bubble, but I've seen your modeling skills. You don't compare to what I saw at the modeling contest. Your idea of weathering a car is to sneeze on it. What makes you think you could model like the big guns?

Larry: Well, for one thing, I have a hose. If I hang it from the ceiling and aim it just right, I can create a major waterfall with white water. And that drive-in theater...I have an old television set I could put in the corner. And I've been lyin' in bed, thinkin' 'bout how I could make a Z-scale catenary out of an old Nn3 2-8-0. I'll mount the pantograph on the cab roof.

Rivets: Larry, think about it! Steam engines weren't electric. There's no prototype for what you're planning.

Larry: Wow! No prototype? I'm breakin' new ground here, man!

Rivets: You never cease to amaze me.

Larry: Thanks, Rivets.

Rivets: Right, Larry. Like I said, I've seen the results of your special projects. Maybe you should take up checkers...

(Thanks to Mike Armstrong for this month's feature.)

AROUND THE BEND...						
---------------------------	--	--	--	--	--	--

MON	DAY	EVENT	PLACE/TIME	PROGRAM	TOUR	CONTEST
Sep.	2	NMRA MCR Div. 10	Bob Lawson's in Danville: 1:00pm—lunch provided (burgers & dogs) 2:00pm — first clinic 2nd clinic if needed at 4:00pm	Bob Lawson: Plan- ning and building small dioramas	Bob Lawson, John Bowling, Maybe Dick Hammond	Passenger Cars
	7	BGRRC	7:30 pm, Meadowthorpe Community Center	TBD		
	14-16	NMRA/Pride in Pulaski Railroad Days	Center for Rural Development, 2292 South Highway 27, Somerset, KY	Multiple displays & layouts by Div. 10 and many others		
Oct.	7	NMRA MCR Div. 10	2:00 pm, Tates Creek Library, Lexington	Pat Gerstle: Weather- ing (metal) Structures	Lou Jaquith	Urban Build- ings
Nov.	4	NMRA MCR Div. 10	2:00 pm, Beaumont Library, Lexington	Jack Green: Brass Col- lecting	Morgan McIlwain	Cabooses
	17-18	GATS	Heritage Hall, Lexington	Displays by NMRA Div. 10 and BGRRC		
Dec.	9	NMRA MCR Div. 10	2:00 pm, Beaumont Library, Lexington	Introduction to Model Railroading	Fred Plymale	Free Category

The Lantern

Published most months by Division 10
Mid Central Region
National Model Railroad Association
2308 The Woods Lane,
Lexington, KY 40502
rrpete@prodigy.net
On-Line: <http://nmra-division10.railfan.net/>



STAMP



If it's not L&N, don't fix it!

REPORT OF 2001 NMRA NATIONAL MEETING

By Bill Paulsell

I was able to attend four days of the NMRA meeting in St. Louis (Monday through Thursday). There were 2500 people from all over the country and from overseas. The meetings consisted primarily of clinics and layout tours, but there were also contests, auctions, and the National Train Show.

I went on four layout tours, each lasting half a day and visiting four layouts each. All of the layouts I visited were in outlying suburbs, and it usually took at least forty minutes to get to the general location of the layouts.

Two that I visited were especially good. Herb Koenig's Cordite and Flat River was featured on the cover of Railroad Model Craftsman for June, 2001. It is a narrow gauge layout with wonderful detail, covering an area 18'x22' and using Digitrax. The other excellent layout was Gary Hoover's Missouri, Kansas, and Quincy. It was on the cover of Model Railroader, October, 2000 and was featured in Great Model Railroads in 1994. Hoover built the layout to be photographed, and it, too, had excellent detail and Digitrax. He announced that as soon as the convention was over he was going to tear it down and rebuild using a Santa Fe theme. It was a bit heartbreaking to think of such an excellent layout being destroyed. I bought a boxcar lettered for the MK&Q.

Two layouts we saw had an interesting feature: they ran through the bathrooms. One crossed through the bathroom at the ceiling level. The other had a window in the shower stall so that you could see the train go by while taking a shower!

An O-Scale club had a nice layout in the old Webster Groves train station. We visited a huge Lionel layout surrounded by a large collection of Lionel equipment, and a very large American Flyer layout featuring a drive-in theatre

that was actually showing "The Blob."

I saw a very nice backyard G-gauge layout. The trackwork was beautiful and the equipment was custom made and excellent. Not much had been done with scenery yet, but you could tell it would be first class.

Most of the clinics were excellent, and I realized how out of date many of my techniques are. I still use screen wire and plaster, but there were a couple of great clinics by Joel Bradgon of Bradgon Enterprises on making cast resin-foam scenery. His work was absolutely beautiful and I am anxious to try his techniques. He also did a fine clinic on RTV mold making and resin casting, which seems to me to be superior to the hydrocal casting I had been doing.

Robert Hundman, publisher of Mainline Modeler, presented an excellent clinic on double wall styrene construction. Rene Grosser presented her usual high quality clinic on making buildings to a standing room only crowd, giving many useful hints that will make a real difference. Steve Gust presented a introductory clinic on operation, showing how even the simplest layout could have fun operation.

Two of the best clinics that I attended were by Wayne Wesolowski. He is a chemistry professor at a college, but makes many models for museums. His work was just unbelievable. He did a lot with resin castings and created some incredibly beautiful models. His second clinic was on the Lincoln Funeral Train and it was fascinating. He described the trip from Washington to New York to Chicago to Springfield, Il. and had a number of contemporary photos to show. He made a one inch to the foot model of the loco and funeral car, and it was just beyond description.

Items submitted to the contest were of very high quality. We were allowed in the room while the judging was taking place. Three or four judges would look at the models with flashlights to see every detail. To win at this level takes tremendous skill.

I came away from the meeting vowing

to scratch-build all buildings in the future and use no more plaster products. The clinics were very helpful. I only walked out of one. It was on signaling by Bruce Cubb and was so far over my low tech head that I couldn't begin to understand it.

Unfortunately, other responsibilities forced me to leave just before the National Train Show began, but I was grateful for the four days I had there.

Next year's convention will be in Fort Lauderdale, July 15-22. I pre-registered for it since they gave a good deal. It would be wonderful if some people from our club could attend. I promise that you would learn much that would help your modeling.

Thanks to Bill Paulsell and to the Bluegrass Railroad Club for permission to reprint Bill's report.— ed.



Map to Bob Lawson's in Danville

Bob's planning another great outing at his place—the fun starts at 1:00 pm, with grilled hamburgers and hot dogs. Bob will give a clinic on building his exquisite dioramas at 2:00 (and again at 4:00 if needed).

Also on the 'plate' will be tours of Bob's layout, and John Bowling's, and possibly Dick Hammond's as well. Each of the three is worth the trip by itself. So don't miss the chance to see all three at once. If you've been to one of these outings before, you KNOW what fun they are. If you haven't, DON'T MISS IT!!

If you come to only one meeting a year, this is the one!

