



The Kingpin

Newsletter of the
Mid Central Region NMRA Inc



January 2017



Mid-Central NMRA
Region Convention

May 18-21, 2017
Louisville, Kentucky

The Mid Central Region cordially invites you to attend The 2017 Pan-American MCR Convention hosted in Louisville, KY by Division Eight. The convention will be held at the Galt House hotel located at 140 North 4th Street in the heart of downtown Louisville. Plans and preparations are well under way by a dedicated team of volunteers working together to ensure you will have a rewarding and enjoyable experience at the Pan-American Convention.

The convention runs from Thursday, May 18 through Sunday, May 21, 2017. Registration and check-in opens at 12:00 PM Thursday and runs through Saturday morning. The convention promises to offer a veritable smorgasbord of model railroading activities you've come to expect at MCR conventions, including clinics, contests, prototype and non-rail tours, self-guided layout tours, operating sessions, non-rail events, a banquet, and more! All convention activities, other than tours and op sessions, will be conveniently located on the same floor of the hotel.

So where did we come up with the idea to call this convention the "Pan-American?" The Pan-American was the premier passenger train of the Louisville and Nashville Railroad. It ran from Cincinnati Union Station to New Orleans linking railroads of the Midwest with the Gulf of Mexico. As an icon of American "standard era" passenger service, the Pan-American was inaugurated in 1921. It had maid and valet service, showers, radio with earphones, and both buffet and full dining car service running over the hilly main line from Cincinnati through Louisville and as far south as Montgomery, Alabama.

Each evening as the steam-powered Pan-American passed a microphone at Vine Hill interlocking just south of Nashville, the powerful transmitter of WSM radio announced "5:39, L&N Railroad time!" along with the name of the engineer on that day's train. Hank Williams was raised literally feet from the L&N mainline and in 1948 wrote his song, "The Pan American." After several upgrades, repaints, and revisions, the era of the Pan-American was finally over with Amtrak's startup May 1, 1971.

Take a look at the following pages to see what we have prepared for you at the 2017 NMRA MCR "Pan-American" Convention. We are sure you will find it to be a rewarding trip, filled with educational offerings for everyone. It will provide the perfect time to renew old friendships and make new ones as well. Mark your calendars now, chart a course to Louisville (sorry, the L&N no longer provides service), then get ready for some real model railroading fun and enjoyment. This is one regional convention you won't want to miss!

Bob Frankrone, Eric Waggoner, and Rick Tipton
Program Chairs and Area Historian



Convention Venue

The Galt House is a 25-story, 1300-room hotel in Louisville, Kentucky established in 1972. It is named for a nearby historic hotel erected in 1837 and demolished in 1921. The Galt House is the city's only hotel on the Ohio River. Louisville's Waterfront Hotel is also in the Heart of Louisville. You can walk, trolley hop, or catch a two-minute cab ride to main attractions, fabulous restaurants, museums, and live entertainment. The Galt House Hotel is the hub of the city and it is THE place to be when in Louisville.

Make your reservations now. Room rates are \$125 single or double in the Rivue Tower. In the Suite Tower, an Executive Suite is \$135/night for single or double, so for an extra \$10/night you get a deluxe suite. Overnight parking is \$9.00 and valet parking is \$25. Be sure to use this link to get the discounted convention rate: <https://aws.passkey.com/event/15504607/owner/817279/home> The NMRA discount rate will also be honored by calling the Galt House to make a reservation at 502-589-5200. Be sure to mention NMRA convention discount rate!



Registration and Web Site Information

Included for your convenience is a separate registration form listing all Extra Fare activities and fees. Please complete the form and send it with your check or money order (No cash please) to: NMRA MCR Division Eight Convention Registrar PO Box 99041 Louisville, KY 40269-0041. Make checks payable to: Div 8, MCR, 2017 Convention. Registrations received on or before January 31, 2017 receive a \$5 discount on the primary registration fee. Do not mail registrations after April 15, 2017. Instead, please wait to register at the convention. Please see the convention web site (<http://www.2017PanAmerican.org>) for refund and other Convention policies. The web site will provide you with up-to-date scheduling and expanded details of convention activities. All registrants will receive confirmation by email after your registration is processed. Funds for sold out or cancelled events will be refunded. A registration form is at the end of the electronic version of the KingPin. Visit us at <http://www.2017PanAmerican.org> and <https://www.facebook.com/2017-PanAmerican-NMRA-Convention-546671545482747> for updates about the 2017 Pan-American convention.

Clinic Presenters and Topics

A detailed list of clinics (rail and non-rail) will be included in the timetable for the convention. It will be available as a printed timetable for convention attendees and online on both the convention website and Facebook page shortly before the convention.

Among the rail clinics to be presented at this year's convention:

- Tony Koester: Creative structure kitbashing & timetables; Train-order operations
- Fran and Miles Hale: Make and Take Scenery clinic (Extra Fare); Using LEDs
- Model Railroader staff member to be named: Behind the Scenes of Model Railroader; MR Video Plus



- TCS (Train Control Systems): Features of WOW DCC sound decoders
- Bob Frankrone: TBA
- Ed Brennan and Charlie Fackler: Achieving Achievement Program Certificates
- Gerry Albers: DCC: Things I wish people had told me; Giving your layout purpose & meaning
- John Campbell: Measuring & estimating for modeling building structures, showing easy ways to go from a picture or a real building and scale it to your layout
- John Logsdon: Traveling on Amtrak
- Mont Switzer: detailing freight cars and their loads
- Peter Weiglin: Railroad dining services and Fred Harvey, including a discussion of Harvey House restaurants at station stops on the ATSF routes before dining car service took over
- Sam Swanson: TBA
- Steve Zapytowski: Contest judging; scratch building in brass; building a better business car
- Terry Luginbuh: DCC; DCC decoder installations
- Tom Guenther and Fred Soward: Operations on Tom's L&N layout



Non-rail clinics include a meet and greet on Thursday evening (Bingo!) and several craft and healthy food clinics throughout the convention. Here's a snapshot of what to expect:

- Bingo: Meet and Greet - Be ready to renew friendships and make new ones. A fun game of bingo along with fun prizes.
- Making greeting card gift boxes: Have you ever needed a small gift box and no time to shop? You will learn how to make one that is quick, easy and inexpensive. (Supplies provided)
- What is Gluten Free?: We are hearing the term "gluten-free" more and more in our society. A representative of "Bloomfield Farms" will speak to us regarding the gluten-free products and the benefits of gluten-free foods especially those who may be gluten sensitive.
- Origami butterflies: Learn to make a beautiful origami butterfly that can be used in any décor. Easy and inexpensive.
- Making easy quilted coasters/hot pads: Have you ever had guests and run out of coasters for their drinks? These coaster/hot pads are easy to make with only minimal skills required. (Supplies provided)



Extra Fare Clinic One:

Fran and Miles Hale "Make and Take Scenery Clinic."

Scenery wizards, Fran and Miles Hale, will cover just about every aspect of creating scenery, except water in this clinic. You will have the opportunity to create a small scene (1 square foot) that you can take home with you. Rock molds, painting/staining rock castings, ground foam, making trees, ballasting, and other topics will be covered in this 2-hour clinic. There is a maximum of 20 seats available for this fun and informative clinic, so sign up soon! Cost is \$10.00 per person.



Extra Fare Clinic Two:

TCS WOW Decoder installation in YOUR diesel locomotive.

The pros from Train Control Systems will perform the installation of a full-featured TCSWOW DCC sound kit, at a discounted price, in a locomotive you bring to the convention while you watch and learn one-on-one. They'll even do basic programming and testing. It will be fully ready to rock-n-roll on your layout before they hand it back to you.

Additional information about this opportunity will be provided nearer the convention date. Sign-ups will be handled through the TCSDCC website. This was an extremely successful and informative clinic at the 2016 NMRA National Convention in Indianapolis and we are excited to be able to offer this at our MCR convention.





Tour Package One (P1):

Rail Tour - Kentucky Railway Museum - Bourbon Trail Tour

DATE: Friday May 19, 2017; TIME: 8:00 am to 5:00 pm; PRICE: \$65.00; Limit 50 participants.

The Kentucky Railway Museum - Bourbon Trail Tour starts at the Galt House Hotel by boarding a fifty passenger luxury coach tour bus. The trip goes through the Bluegrass state on Interstate highways, State, and country roads. There is a lot of sightseeing along the way, but the main focus is on three stops. The first stop will be in Bardstown, KY at the R.J. Corman Old Kentucky Dinner Train for an opportunity to take some up close photos of two vintage F-units and several streamlined dining cars. The second stop will be in New Haven, KY, at the Kentucky Railway Museum, home of the 4-6-2 Light Pacific #512. We will ride the train over the 22-mile round trip route to Boston, KY, passing through farmlands, behind distilleries, across many country roads, and over the Rolling Fork River. We will be pulled behind one of the museum's diesels; perhaps

the Monon BL2 or the Santa Fe CF-7. You also have an opportunity to win a cab ride if your ticket is pulled in our lottery on the day of the tour. Once back in New Haven, we will enjoy a box lunch on the museum grounds then tour the museum and shops. The museum houses many railroad artifacts and a scale HO model railroad. The surrounding grounds and shops are home to many prototype relics of a bygone era including Chesapeake and Ohio #2716, a 2-8-4 Kanawha, and a restored Soo Line wide-vision caboose. Our last stop is in Loretto, KY, where we will tour the Maker's Mark Distillery, one of the premier distillery tours along the Bourbon Trail. Should you decide to purchase some bourbon in the gift shop, you will be able to dip your own bottle to get that signature red wax seal. We expect to arrive back at the convention hotel by 5:00 pm. This tour will likely sell out so register for it early. The tour price includes transportation, lunch, and admission fees.

**Maker's
Mark**



Tour Package Two (NR1):

Non-Rail Tour – Southern Indiana/Louisville Stoneware & Museum Tour

DATE: Friday May 19, 2017; TIME: 9:00 am to 4:30 pm; PRICE: \$35.00; Limit 30 participants.

This tour will leave the Galt House by motor coach and will proceed across the river to Jeffersonville, Indiana. We will visit Schimpff's Confectionery which has been making candy since 1891. There we will see candy making memorabilia as well as observe the candy making process. We will then go to the Howard Steamboat Museum and Mansion, built in 1894, featuring a 3-story black walnut grand staircase along with many original furnishings. Next, we will board the bus and travel back to Louisville where we will have lunch on your own at "The Café" offering fresh, home-cooked food with a Southern accent. This is very near our next destination, Louisville Stoneware. We will have a tour of Louisville Stoneware and you will be able shop there if you like. Our last stop for the day will be at the MA Hadley pottery factory outlet. The tour price includes transportation and admission fees.



Tour Package Three (P2):

Rail Tour – Louisville & Indiana railroad and the La Grange RR Museum

DATE: Saturday May 20, 2017; TIME: 7:30 am to 1:00 pm; PRICE: \$45.00; Limit 50 participants.

The Louisville and Indiana Railroad is a local short line servicing several businesses in Louisville and southern Indiana. We will tour the L&I control room and will have prototype photo opportunities of their rail

yard. Our next stop is the La Grange RR Museum located trackside in historic La Grange, KY. The museum is housed in the old La Grange train station, which dates back to 1915. The CSX main line runs down the center of Main Street, and with a little luck we may catch a CSX freight “street running” through town. Our museum tour concludes with a box lunch in a vintage dining car located on the property. We will return to the Galt House following lunch. This tour promises to be a lot of fun, so don’t miss out. The tour price includes transportation, lunch, and admission fees.



Tour Package Four (NR2):

Non-Rail Tour – Guided Old Louisville Architectural Tour

DATE: Saturday May 20, 2017; TIME: 9:00 am to 12:00 pm; PRICE: \$30.00; Limit 30 participants.

Architect and author, Steve Wiser, will give us a guided tour of historic homes in Old Louisville. We will also be able to tour the historic Conrad-Caldwell home. Mr. Wiser is very knowledgeable regarding the architecture of many of these older homes. We will return to the Galt House at lunch time. This tour will be worth your time!!! The tour price includes transportation and admission fees.

Self-Guided Downtown Louisville Tours

This is just a small sample of attractions and outings for you to consider during your trip to Louisville. We will have more information for you upon arrival at registration:

- Belle of Louisville Steamboat (5 minute walk)
- Frazier History Museum (10 minute walk)
- Louisville Slugger Bat Factory and Museum (10 minute walk)
- Muhammad Ali Museum (10 minute walk)
- Churchill Downs and Kentucky Derby Museum (15 minutes from downtown)
- Falls of the Ohio State Park and Interpretive Center (15 minutes from downtown)
- Downtown Louisville Walking Tours (30 to 60 minute tours)
- Slugger Field, home of the Louisville Bats minor league baseball team (10 minute walk) They’re playing a home game against Columbus the Friday night of our convention!!!



Sunday (on the way home) Self-Guided Layout Tours

There will be more than two dozen home layouts open on Sunday to visit and enjoy. Detailed maps will be provided in your Convention packet. Layouts vary from large to small, just started to completely finished. The owners are excited to show us their craftsmanship. Photos of some of the layouts are on the Convention web site!

Thursday Evening Operating Sessions

We will be offering Operating Sessions on Thursday night of the Convention from 7:00 PM to 10:00 PM. Slots for each session will be on a first-come first-served basis.

Membership in the NMRA and registration for the Convention is required. Signing up for operating sessions can be accomplished on the enclosed registration form. A downloadable registration form is also available for your convenience on the Convention Website at: <http://www.2017panamerican.org/Registration/Registration.htm> Please provide your first, second, and third choices for each time slot in case your first selection is full. If you wish to operate with specific people, please include their names. They must register for the Convention and the Ops Session. We will try to keep groups together.

There will be a mandatory crew call at 4:30 PM Thursday afternoon before the sessions (check the Convention timetable for location). Each participant is responsible for their own transportation to the layouts, although opportunities for ride-sharing may be available at the Crew Call. Maps and directions will be provided at the Crew Call.



OPS session number 1:

John Campbell's Louisville & Nashville. This HO Scale layout features 200 ft. of mainline features operations in Eastern KY during the steam and early diesel days of 1955. It is 100% scened with an operating signal system. There is a terminal and large classification yard, with branch lines providing opportunities for mine runs and locals. Control is Digitrax DCC. Operators; Driving time 30 minutes in traffic



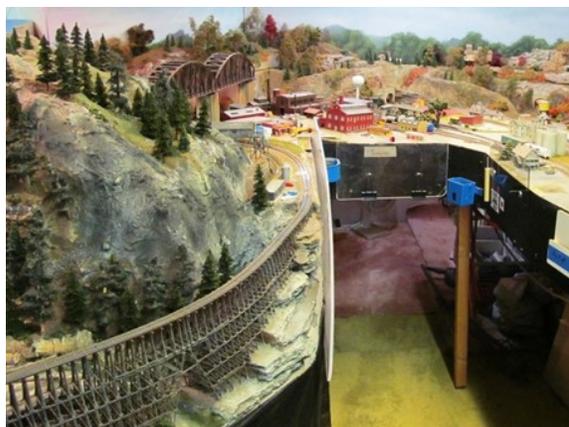
OPS session number 2:

Tom Guentner's Louisville & Nashville. This HO Scale layout features over 200 ft. of mainline. Tom's layout is inspired by the Louisville & Nashville Railroad's Cumberland Valley Division. Set in the 60's and 70's, it is 90% scened with an operating signal system using JMRI, numerous towns and switching districts with run thru freights, locals, and mine runs. Control is Digitrax DCC. 8 Operators; Driving time 30 minutes in traffic



OPS session number 3:

K & I Model Railroad Club. It is modular in construction, permanently set up in a former fire house. This HO Scale layout features double track mainline and a branch line. It is 100% scened. There is a 20 foot yard with engine servicing facilities. There are many industries both large and small offering an abundance of opportunity for switching. Control is Digitrax DCC. This layout is handicapped accessible. 10 Operators; Driving time 45 minutes in traffic



OPS session number 4:

Rick Maloney's Midwest Central & Northwestern is a freelanced N-Scale layout depicting railroading through the Central US connecting the Great Lakes with the East Coast. It is 80% scened. Rick's layout is in a 16 ft. x 43 ft. upstairs room with 600 ft. of mainline track. Control is Digitrax DCC. 10 Operators; Driving time 30 minutes in traffic



OPS session number 5:

Southern Indiana Model Railroad Club is located across the Ohio River from the Galt House in Jeffersonville, IN. It is a large HO layout located in the basement of the First Presbyterian Church. It is accessible by elevator. 100% scened, it is around the wall with a large peninsula in the center. The layout models towns in the Southern Indiana area with main line running and local switching. Control is Digitrax DCC. 10 Operators; Driving time 30 minutes in traffic



OPS session number 6:

Russ Weis's HO New York Central-Eastern Division. Russ models Buffalo to Albany, NY in 1950. His railroad is 38 ft. x 28 ft. with a 28 ft. peninsula with staging in walk-in basement. It is 80% scened and features both passenger and freight operations. Control is NCE DCC. 10 operators; Driving time 45 minutes in traffic



OPS session number 7:

Rob Cooper's Louisville & Nashville Cumberland Valley Division. This HO layout is 30% scened and features 200 feet of main line. Set in the transition era, it is point-to-point with no duck-under and features mainline and way freights as well as mine runs. There is an open staging room and a separate dispatcher's office. Control is RailPro DCC by Ring Engineering. 9 operators; Driving time 60 minutes in traffic

For additional information and photos of these layouts visit: <http://www.2017panamerican.org>

Annual Meeting Banquet

Our Saturday evening banquet dinner will be in the Archibald Ballroom on the third floor of the Revue Tower. Well known author, speaker, and model railroader Tony Koester is the speaker at our banquet. The Galt House kitchen is famous in Louisville and promises to prepare a dinner that we will fondly remember. We will start with a Galt House Salad of an assortment of fresh greens, vegetables, and tomatoes served with the Galt House homemade fat free French dressing. You will have a choice of three (3) dinner entrees options: (1) Pan-Fried Chicken, hand battered boneless breast served with white cheddar mashed potatoes and country gravy or (2) herb seasoned fresh Pan Seared Atlantic Salmon fillet drizzled with balsamic glaze and topped with crispy onion straws or (3) a vegetarian option. Cost for the dinner is \$45 per person including tax and tip.





Company Store Sales and Raffle

The Company Store/White Elephant Sale will be combined into one event. This is where you can sell your new or used railroad related items. If your items sell, Division 8 will collect a 10% commission from the seller for conducting the sale.

Sellers will be required to fill out a three part form for each item or lot of items. The required information is 1) item description, 2) selling price, and 3) registration number of the seller. Items having missing or damaged parts must be marked "AS IS". There will be a maximum of 20 items or lots to be sold per individual.

Hours of operation will be posted in the Convention timetable. If you are selling items for your division, we will need the following information on a typed sheet of paper:

- 1) The description, quantity and price of each item you are leaving with us.
- 2) Division number, name of contact person, cell phone number and email address.
- 3) Name and address of the person to whom we should send the check following the Convention.

Also, each item must have the price and the Division number attached to it. This can be accomplished with a price sticker. Payment to sellers for individual and Division sales will be made in the form of a Division 8 check to be mailed out following the Convention. No payment will be made at any other time. Our Company Store will take cash or personal checks for payments. We apologize for the inconvenience, but we will not accept credit cards. For a complete set of Company Store guidelines, please visit our convention web site.

All raffle prizes will be on display in the same room as the Company Store/White elephant sales. The winning tickets for each raffle item will be drawn on Saturday afternoon after 3:15 PM and the winning numbers will be displayed outside the Company Store.

Distribution of prizes to winners will be from 4:00 PM to 5:00PM and will continue if needed after the banquet. All unclaimed prizes become the property of Division 8 if not claimed by the end of the convention. Prices for raffle tickets are: \$1.00 each, 6 for \$5.00, "wing Span" \$20.00.



Convention Contest

We will be conducting the Model, Photography, and Arts and Crafts contests. All entrants must be current NMRA members. In 2014, the Region aligned the categories of model entries to agree with the National Contest. The winner in each judged model, photography, and arts and crafts category will receive a plaque. Second and third place will receive ribbons. Best of show awards will be presented in each of these categories.

There will also be a People's Choice contest for favorite car, locomotive, structure, display, photo and craft item. All registrants will receive a ballot in their registration packet. Popular Vote ballots must be cast prior to 9:00 PM Friday.

Contest entries will be accepted from 3:00 PM to 5:30 PM and 6:30 PM to 9:00 PM Thursday and 8:00 AM to 12:45 PM and 1:45 PM to 9:00 PM Friday in the Contest Room. No contest entries will be accepted on Saturday.

There will be a training clinic for judges presented Saturday morning at 8:00 AM, conducted by Steve Zapytowski. If you want to be a judge or feel you need to refresh your judging skills, please attend this session. New judges will be teamed with experienced judges for contest judging. Don't forget that serving as a judge earns you credit toward Association Volunteer in the Achievement Program.

Contest Judging begins at 9:00 AM Saturday morning. Convention attendees are welcome during judging but silence must be observed and there is to be no interaction with the judges. The contest room will be closed after the judging (about 12:30) on Saturday. Entries cannot be picked up until after the banquet.

To save yourself time at the convention, download entry forms from the convention website and bring them already completed. We will have blank forms at the convention as well.

Convention Operating Layouts

There will be several layouts operating at the convention hotel. We expect to have two modular layouts and at least two switching layouts where you will be able to test your own skill with a switching problem or two. More details about how to sign up for a session will be provided on the convention website and Facebook page as they become available.

Hospitality Suite

We are in Room 300, on the same floor as all other convention events, near the corner of the long hallway and the clinic rooms. We'll have plenty of refreshments, games, and room for visiting. We might even be able to squeeze in a timesaver module!

Convention Shirt

Polo shirts are available in Oxford Grey. Shirts must be ordered prior to April 1, 2017 to ensure delivery at the convention. Be sure to mark your size and quantity on the Extra Fare page of the registration form. Price for shirts sized small to XL is \$25.00. Shirts sized 2X to 4X are \$30.00. All sales are absolutely, unquestionably, and irrevocably final.



Railfanning Opportunities

Louisville offers plenty of railfanning opportunities with several railroads running in the area. The two major roads are CSX and Norfolk Southern, both having nearby yard facilities. There are several other smaller short line or regional railroads in the immediate area. During any given day from the Galt House you can see CSX, Norfolk Southern, Indiana Railroad, Louisville and Indiana, and Paducah and Louisville trains crossing the Ohio River over the L&I Lift Bridge. There is a LOT of pooled power coming through Louisville. It's not uncommon to see BNSF, Canadian National, and UP lashups coming thru town.



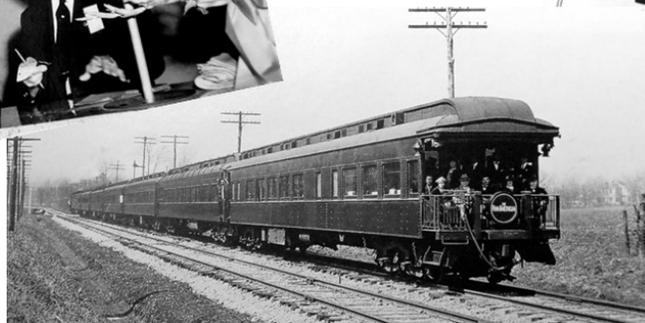
Plan to come to Louisville for the convention.

Be prepared to enjoy everything the area has to offer!

Send in your completed registration now so that you can get your ticket to hop on The 2017 Pan-American in Louisville!



L&N Photos courtesy
of Ron Flanary





The Pan-American
 Mid-Central Region Convention Registration Form
 Louisville, Kentucky, May 18-21, 2017
 Hosted by Division 8, MCR, NMRA

Name _____ NMRA # _____
 Name for Badge _____ Region _____ Division _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 Phone _____ Email Address _____

Item	Quantity	Unit Price	Total
Early Registration (Received on or before January 31, 2017)		\$85.00	
Regular Registration (Received on or after February 1, 2017)		\$90.00	
Family Registration (Spouse and minor children)		\$25.00	
Name	Email		
Name	Email		
Name	Email		
NMRA Rail Pass Membership (Required if not an NMRA member; restrictions apply)		\$9.95	
Extra Fare Events	See reverse side		
Registration Total			

Make checks payable to: Div 8, MCR, 2017 Convention	Mail to: NMRA MCR Division Eight Convention Registrar PO Box 99041 Louisville, KY 40269-0041
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Early registrants will be notified by email when extra-fare events have been finalized and priced. Make hotel registration directly with Galt House Hotel, 140 North 4TH Street, Louisville, KY, 40202, TEL: (800) 843-4258 or (502) 589-5200. Convention room rates start at \$125 plus applicable taxes and fees per night for a standard room. Please reserve the room under National Model Railroad Convention, Mid-Central Region. Tell hotel registrar of special needs such as an accessible room. Hotel registration deadline is May 12, 2017, 3:00 PM (ET).

Include the email of your family members so that they will also be kept informed directly about special events and activities that may be of interest to them. Everyone listed as family members will receive emails with specific non-rail activities. Let us know if your family members would prefer to not receive those updates as separate emails.

Persons who wish to join the National Model Railroad Association (NMRA) with a full annual membership should process their membership application with the NMRA online at www.nmra.org or by mail at National Model Railroad Association, Inc., PO Box 1328, Soddy Daisy, TN 37384-1328, Phone: (423) 892-2846 - Fax: (423) 899-4869. The MCR Division 8 cannot accept applications directly.

OVER

EXTRA FARE EVENTS

Date	Tour	Quantity	Unit Price	Total
19 May 2017 8:00am-5:00pm	P1 - KY Railway Museum, Maker's Mark, and Bardstown Tour (max 50 people, lunch included)		\$65.00	
19 May 2017 9:00am-4:30pm	NR1 - Schimpff's Confectionery, Howard Steam Boat Museum, and Louisville Stoneware Tour (max 30 people)		\$35.00	
20 May 2017 7:30am-1:00pm	P2 - Louisville & Indiana Railroad and La Grange Railroad muse- um (max 50 people, lunch included)		\$45.00	
20 May 2017 9:00am-12:00pm	NR2 - Tour of Old Louisville with Steve Wiser, AIA. (max 30 people)		\$30.00	
20 May 2017	Awards Banquet Dinner (circle meal choice) Chicken Salmon Vegetable		\$45.00	
EXTRA FARE CLINIC				
20 May 2017	Miles and Fran Hale, Make & Take Scenery (max 20 people)		\$10.00	
CONVENTION SHIRTS				
Men's Convention Shirts (circle size)	Small Medium Large Extra Large		\$25.00	
	2X 3X 4X		\$30.00	
Ladies' Convention Shirts (circle size)	Small Medium Large Extra Large		\$25.00	
	2X 3X 4X		\$30.00	
<i>Add to page 1</i>			TOTAL	

OPERATING SESSIONS

Operating Session Layout Choices (mark preferences; first come basis)	1 ST	2 ND	3 ^R D
OPS 1 - John Campbell (Louisville, HO Scale L&N Railroad circa 1955, 100% scenery)			
OPS 2 - Tom Guentner (Louisville, HO Scale L&N Railroad circa 1960-1970, 90% scenery)			
OPS 3 - K & I Model Railroad Club (Buckner, KY, HO Scale freelance, 100% scenery)			
OPS 4 - Rick Maloney (Louisville, N Scale Midwest Central & Northwestern RR, 80% scenery)			
OPS 5 - Southern Indiana Model RR Club (Jeffersonville, IN, HO Scale freelance, 100% scenery)			
OPS 6 - Russ Weis (Louisville, HO Scale New York Central circa 1950, 80% scenery)			
OPS 7 - Rob Cooper (Elizabethtown, HO Scale L&N Railroad circa 1960, 80% scenery)			

STATEMENT OF POLICY FOR CONVENTION REFUNDS

The Pan-American Convention will generally not make refunds, other than as explained below, except in unusual situations. Individual requests will be considered on their merits, after the convention's finances have been settled.

- Any refund granted will be paid by check, mailed to the registrant's home address after the convention is over. No immediate refunds will be made.
- No refund will be granted on unused Banquet Tickets unless a registration refund is also granted.
- No refund will be granted if the registrant misses the bus for an extra fare event.
- If an extra fare event is cancelled, then a refund will be made as explained above.
- Any tour is subject to cancellation if there is a lack of participation.
- If an extra fare tour is already filled to capacity when the registration is processed, then there will be a numbered ticket stapled to a refund request form enclosed with the registration package.

The registrant will have the option at registration to either:

- Complete the form and return it to registration with the ticket still attached, in which case a refund will be made as explained above, or
- Hold the ticket and form and become a standby for the tour.
- If the registrant holds the standby ticket, he (or she) must be at the tour loading spot at least ten minutes before scheduled bus departure time and inform the bus loading supervisor that they are a standby. At five minutes before departure, any empty seats will be filled by standbys in numerical order. Those who held regular tickets for the tour and arrive later than five minutes before departure will only be accommodated if there are still empty seats available when they arrive. The bus will depart on time, and the bus supervisor will collect any remaining standby tickets, with the still attached refund form filled out. A refund for the standby will be made as explained above. ***This is the only time that those tickets may be turned back in for a refund.*** They will not be accepted at a later time. If you aren't there when the bus departs, you will not get a refund.

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

Ah – you found me way back here. I hope you weren't too worried when you pored over the front page and couldn't find my inspiring words. All I can say is if you've gotten to this page without pausing to get your Convention registration in, you missed something. Go back to Page One and start over. Seriously, the Regional Convention is a great opportunity to operate on or visit layouts you might never have another chance to see, attend clinics that probably won't be repeated anywhere close to home, tour industries and facilities that are usually closed to individual visitors and to meet and compare ideas with modelers and train-buffs from areas further away than a three hour drive. In fact – here is a recommendation for you – at the banquet, and in the common gathering areas, **MEET SOMONE NEW**. Split up your group for one night! Don't insist on sitting with the same people you see every month.

By now you realize that I have just repeated last year's opening paragraph. I really meant it then, and I still mean it.

As you know, my term as President will expire during the Louisville Convention. The reason I did not run for a second term is that I was approached by the NMRA's National Nominating Committee to run for Central District Director. The Central District encompasses eleven states, three of which (Kentucky, Indiana and Ohio) are in our Region. The idea is to get more business-oriented representatives on the Board, and to that aim, I submitted the attached candidate statement. I do want to hear from any of you about your concerns and or suggestions for the Board to consider – and, it goes without saying that I would appreciate the votes of the 1,175 voting members from those three states.

Since Bob Weinheimer will be assuming the role of President, we need someone to step up and take the position of Kingpin Editor and Publisher. Correspond with Bob for details.

One more thing – because this is the Convention Issue, you are receiving a hard copy (black & white) of this Kingpin, as well as the electronic copy (in color), if we have your email address. Out of the 1,591 current MCR members, we have email addresses for 1,262. That means that 329 of you only get one issue per year, and you are missing out on three email issues. That number was 332 last year, so we have made very little progress. Please send us an email address – if you don't have one, perhaps a child or grandchild (you know – that kid who tried to teach you how to program the DVR) will let you get it on their email.

See you in Louisville!

Steve Kaplan
MCR President

Steve Kaplan's candidate statement for Central Region Director

The NMRA is a multi-million-dollar-plus business, and the Board of Directors bears a significant portion of the responsibility to ensure that it is run as a business. I am a semi-retired CPA, with a current practice focused on serving non-profit organizations by working closely with their Boards, assisting in the development and implementation of policies and procedures and managing their filings and other dealings with the IRS and State Governments. Prior to my "retirement", I managed treasury, insurance and accounting functions for several major corporations involved in finance and manufacturing.

Getting and retaining new members remains a problem for all of the hobbies that we have traditionally enjoyed, and I will continue to work towards that goal through increased contact between the NMRA and Scouting, 4-H and any other organization with whom we can partner. As we expand the EduTRAIN program, we need to work on new ways to get it out to the Divisions. Simply announcing that it is available doesn't seem to be working. The Directors, of course, have a critical role in bridging that two way street between the national organization and the membership, but I believe they must also generate ideas and best practices and communicate them.

I served six years as a Division Trustee before being elected Superintendent and am in the last year of my term as Mid Central Region President. I hold the Association Official and Volunteer achievement certificates. I was the Host Committee Treasurer for the 2014 NMRA National Convention, and was actively involved in the planning as well as the management of the convention. An avid model railroader since 1968, I previously modeled the V&T but moved forward 80 years when I decided to go DCC, and began constructing a layout based on the Kansas City area – my home town. My other hobby is collecting and researching Postal History (yes - I do collect RPO cancellations), and I am serving or have served as Controller, Director or Vice President of three international philatelic organizations.

I hope you will agree that you and the NMRA need a successful business manager and qualified financial leader to represent the membership on the national Board of Directors. Please know that I will bring your best interests to the BOD.

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FROM THE EDITOR

I don't have much room this time so I'll be short. I want to thank the Louisville crew, in particular Fred Soward, for being extremely cooperative in getting their convention article to me on time and in a very complete form. Please read it carefully then join us in Louisville in May.

As I noted last time, as the incoming Mid Central Region President, I don't feel it is appropriate or practical to continue as the editor of the KingPin. I've been looking at newsletters from around the Region and if I hear nobody volunteering I might be getting in touch with one or more of the editors. The task is not huge, there are but three issues each year and this issue is easy as somebody else does nearly all the work. You would be welcome to give the newsletter a whole new look, change is sometimes a good thing. Please think it over and volunteer.



NMRA's Mid Central Region is proud to announce the release of a one room brick schoolhouse kit made by Mountaineer Precision Products. The prototype was in Canal Winchester, Ohio but seems typical of 19th century schools throughout the rural Midwest. Some of these structures are still in use today for farm equipment storage (the directions say that the Canal Winchester school has been moved and preserved). The kit features laser cut wood construction with plastic brick overlay. The HO scale kit was initially available for sale at the Regional Convention and now O and S scale versions are available. The kit prices are: HO \$45, S \$70, and O \$80. All prices include shipping. Ohio residents add 8% sales tax. Make payment to NMRA Mid-Central Region. Orders should be sent to:

Steve Kaplan
MCR Project Kit
3238 Belvoir Blvd.

Beachwood, OH 44122

Upcoming events courtesy of the Allegheny Plateau Division web site.

What	Where	When	More Info
Ohio Valley Lines Holiday Show	Ambridge PA	January 1, 2017	web site
Clinton Central MRC Open House	Castanea PA	January 3, 2017	pdf flyer
Carbon Model RR Society Open House	Bowmanstown PA	January 5, 2017	web site
Prototype Rails 2017	Cocoa Beach FL	January 5-7, 2017	web site
Western PA Model RR Museum Holiday Show	Gibsonia PA	January 6-8, 2017	web site
Clinton Central MRC Open House	Castanea PA	January 7, 2017	pdf flyer
Snow Dogs Train Show	Parma OH	January 7, 2017	web page
Mid Mon Valley MRC Open House	New Eagle PA	January 7-8, 2017	flyer
Ohio Valley Lines Holiday Show	Ambridge PA	January 7-8, 2017	web site
CASME Winter Open House	Coopersburg PA	January 7-8, 2017	web page
Carbon Model RR Society Open House	Bowmanstown PA	January 7-8, 2017	web site
Toy Train & Model Railroad Flea Market	Salem OH	January 8, 2017	pdf flyer
Clinton Central MRC Open House	Castanea PA	January 10, 2017	pdf flyer
Western PA Model RR Museum Holiday Show	Gibsonia PA	January 13-15, 2017	web site
Clinton Central MRC Open House	Castanea PA	January 14, 2017	pdf flyer
Clinton Central MRC Open House	Castanea PA	January 21, 2017	pdf flyer
Amherst Railroad Hobby Show	West Springfield MA	January 28-29, 2017	web site
Model Train Show & Swap Meet	Vermilion OH	January 29, 2017	pdf flyer
Mid Mon Valley MRC Train Show and Sale	New Eagle PA	January 29, 2017	flyer
Train and Toy Show	Medina OH	February 2, 2017	notice
Great Scale Model Train Show	Timonium MD	February 4-5, 2017	web site
Medina Model Train & Toy Show	Medina OH	February 5, 2017	web site
Hagerstown Model RR Museum Train Sale	Sharpsburg MD	February 11, 2017	web site
Kittanning Train Show	Kittanning Township PA	February 19, 2017	map
Erie Train Show	Erie PA	March 5, 2017	map
Division 5 - Railfest 2017	Kirtland OH	March 18-19, 2017	pdf flyer
RPM East Meet	Greensburg PA	March 24-25, 2017	web page
Train and Toy Show	Massillon OH	March 26, 2017	pdf flyer
Carbon Model RR Society Train Meet	Palmerton PA	March 26, 2017	web site
Savannah RPM Meet	Port Wentworth GA	March 31-April 1, 2017	web site
Division 8 Train Show and Sale	Louisville KY	April 1, 2017	web site
Medina Model Train & Toy Show	Medina OH	April 2, 2017	web site
Model Railroad Show & Swap Meet	Montpelier OH	April 2, 2017	pdf flyer
Toy Train & Model Railroad Flea Market	Salem OH	April 9, 2017	pdf flyer
Firelands Model Train Show	Mansfield OH	April 15, 2017	web page
Division 2 Jamboree	Moon Twp PA	April 29, 2017	none yet
Model Train Days	Painesville OH	May 7-8, 2017	pdf flyer
Mid Central Region Convention	Louisville KY	May 18-21, 2017	web site
National N Scale Convention	Pittsburgh PA	June 21-25, 2017	website
St Louis RPM Meet	Collinsville IL	June 23-24, 2017	web site