



Gateway Division Rail Op Weekend 2010

RPO

Fall 2010: Volume 18, Number 3

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On the Cover

Left to right: Tim Stout and Mike Thomas listen as John Schindler explains their duties on his St. Louis Junction Railroad.

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Superintendent's Desk

by Hank Kraichely

Fall and model railroad season are here again. It is also a great time to plan your model railroad activities for the fall and winter seasons.

Speaking for the Gateway officers, we would like to see more of you at our meetings. Tim Stout has done a commendable job of arranging for clinics for our meetings. We have built a American Model Builders structure (given out at the May meeting). We have learned how to build turnouts using Fast Tracks templates, how to weather steam locomotives, plus kitbashing locomotives.

We have had the second annual joint picnic (with NRHS) which was offered to members and their families at no charge; approximately 100 people attended. Later this fall we will be going to the Barriger Library at UMSL for a presentation covering this immense collection of railroad materials. Many thanks to Ron Gawedzinski for arranging these activities.

Why are these people working so hard? So that you, the NMRA member, have reasons to attend the monthly meeting and have access to events you could not do on your own. I am simply asking that you take advantage of these activities which you as an NMRA member are entitled to. I understand that 10-15% of

the membership attends the National Convention each year which is understandable due to the expense.

There is no additional cost to be a active member of the Gateway Division – your national dues covers that. Why not make one of your fall resolutions be to attend a Gateway meeting, just 2 hours on the 3rd Monday of each month.

By the way if you are not receiving the monthly meeting reminder and quarterly RPO via email please send me your email address.

A ballot for Division officers for 2011 is enclosed. Please don't forget to vote. I look forward to seeing you at the October meeting and the Fall Meet and Holiday party in November.

Honors and Awards

A number of Gateway Division members have received honors and awards in recent months.

Bob Amsler received the NMRA President's Award at the national convention in Milwaukee in July. The President's Award is given to members who make the organization work. Bob was cited specifically for his work with the Union Pacific Steam Program and for his service as the NMRA's General Counsel. It was also announced that he has agreed to be the new Meetings & Trade Shows Manager for National.

Also at the National Convention, **Phil Bonzon, MMR**, took a first place in the model contest and received the William J. Lenoir Locomotive Award for the best scratchbuilt steam locomotive. Bill Lenoir (1910-1995) was a charter member of the NMRA and noted O scale scratchbuilder. Phil won for his model of B&O 4-6-2 #5301 *The Cincinnati*. You can find Phil's article on building *The Cincinnati* in this issue of the RPO.



Division Superintendent Hank Kraichely presents Phil Bonzon, MMR, with the Lenoir Award plaque

photo by Bob Amsler

Gene Coffmann was presented with the NMRA's Golden Spike Award at our September meeting. The Golden Spike is a part of the Achievement Program which recognizes broad accomplishment in model railroading. It doesn't require all the in-depth expertise required to be a Master Model Railroader, but is frequently a stepping stone to that honor. For more on this program go to: www.nmra.org/education/achievement/gold.html.



Gene Coffmann, right, receives his Golden Spike certificate from Don Taschner, MMR, Gateway Division AP Chairman

photo by Phil Bonzon, MMR

Rail Op Weekend 2010

by Phil Bonzon, MMR

Last April after returning from the SE Michigan Op Sig weekend and thinking what a neat event it was, I thought this would be a great event for the Gateway membership. Here would be a chance to introduce prototypical operations to novices and provide fun for "Old Hands". So I proposed it at our Gateway May meeting and the idea was very well received.

Make it a free event, but require NMRA membership to participate, which brought us two new members. Next have two months of clinics on operations, so that members could understand prototypical operations, which members Bob Johnson, Gene Coffman, Rich Lake and John Schindler did so well. Find six operation oriented layouts with owners who would be willing to host operation sessions; have Rich Schumacher, webmaster, set-up Rail Op on the Gateway website <http://gatewaynmra.org/> to advertise, provide information, and allow for on-line registration for the Gateway Rail Op weekend.

Session assignments, directions to layouts and special information were communicated to the registered members by email and by snail mail in one case, in advance of the weekend. Nametags were made for all participants and they were mailed to the layout hosts to be distributed at their sessions.

Well, it all came together on September 17th and 18th, with 36 NMRA members participating, and judging from the feedback it was a resounding success with all having a great time. The layout hosts Hank Kraichely, Randy Meyer, MMR, Gary Gross, Bob Johnson, John Schindler, and Rich & Venita Lake did an outstanding job at being gracious and helpful hosts with the sessions running smoothly.

There was an added bit of excitement Saturday afternoon at the Lake's session, as a hot-air balloon participating in the Great Forest Park Balloon Race landed on their street just a few house away, while other balloons passed closely overhead.... just a little added attraction to our Gateway weekend.

The response to a survey taken after the weekend was 100% for making the Gateway Rail Op Weekend a regular event, to be held at least twice a year. The first Gateway Rail Op Weekend was successful because of the smooth running layouts and their knowledgeable, helpful owners and all the people who participated. Also, the Op Sig operation event guide was most helpful in organizing our Rail Op weekend.

This type of event introduces another aspect of our great hobby to novices and provides "Old Hands" with an interesting weekend of operations. It also can help bring in some new NMRA members....a win-win event!

Randy Meyer, MMR Canyon & Rocky Mountain

photos by Richard Schumacher

Randy models the standard gauge Denver & Rio Grande Western and the narrow gauge Canyon & Rocky Mountain in S scale.



Randy explains his fascia-mounted turnout controls before the operating sessions begins



Dave Jobe checks his paperwork before running his train out of staging



Sometimes a bit of re-railing is necessary



Larry Wodell out on the mainline



Steve Hemmel, engineer of the local passenger run, pauses at Silverton



Tom McKenzie runs his train past the stamp mill



The operator's eye view of his engine



A close-up of Randy's stamp mill



Randy and Tom discuss the operations of the Canyon & Rocky Mountain

Rick & Venita Lake's
El Dorado & El Reno

photos by Phil Bonzon, MMR

The El & El runs from northern Louisiana to southeastern Oklahoma by way of western Arkansas, featuring both steam and diesel power. The double-deck HO standard gauge layout is set in 1957.



Nothing moves on the El & El until Dispatcher Venita Lake says it can



El Dorado Yardmaster Tom McKenzie contemplates the situation



Engineer Bill Linson radios his location to the Dispatcher



Roving Trainmaster Rick Lake solves problems out on the line

John Schindler's
St. Louis Junction

photos by Richard Schumacher

This modern switching line in HO handles interchange traffic among the BNSF, UP, and NS as well as industrial switching from south St. Louis to Alton. Hidden staging tracks represent Chicago, Quincy, Moberly, and Kansas City, while warehouses, grain elevators, and a steel mill are switched on line.



John Schindler explains the operation of the North Saint Louis yard to Ron Gawdzinski, right, and Chris Oestreich, left



Rich Velton is master of the 12th Street Yard



Dispatcher Dave Roeder, MMR, checks his train sheet before radioing instructions to a crew.



A sampling of the electronics needed to keep this 1500 square foot layout running and the dozen or so operators informed of one another's movements..



Brian Post views some of the heavy industry north of Madison, Illinois.



John has numerous background buildings appropriately scaled to his expansive layout.



An on-time train makes for a happy engineer. Tim Stout runs through the 12th Street Yard toward Grand Avenue Junction.



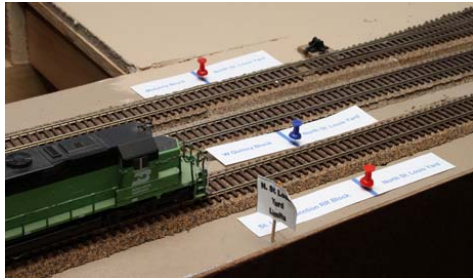
Prototypical realism, circa 1995.



A portion of the crew getting their introduction to the St. Louis Junction Railroad and the numerous trains they'll be running for the next three hours.



Ron and Tim discuss their next move



On a railroad as large as this one it helps to have yard limits and occupancy blocks clearly labeled for the train crews



Ron shuffles the car cards.



Steve Hemmel tries figuring out how to get the right car spotted at the right industry in the Granite City area



Some of the heavy industry served by the road



Paperwork – don't leave the yard without it



Mike Thomas switches the Tower Grove Industrial job.

The *Cincinnati*

by Phil Bonzon, MMR

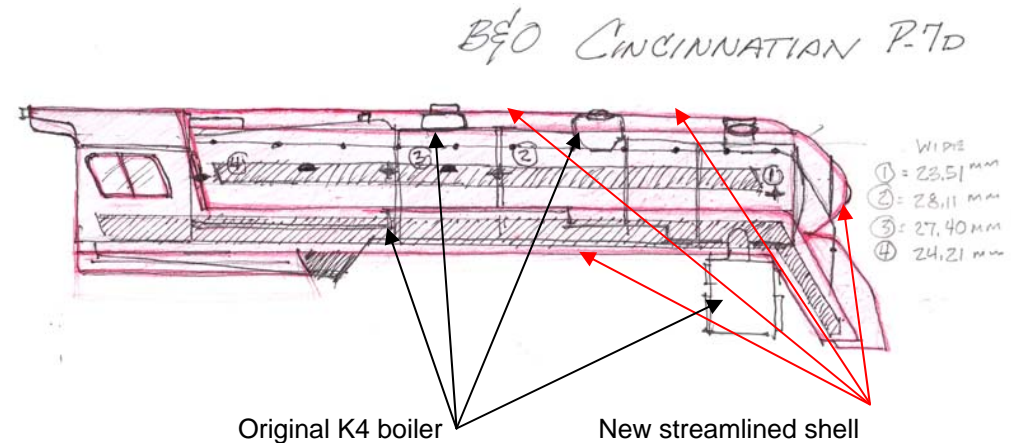
Description:

In 1946, four class P-7 Pacific's were streamlined at the B&O Mt. Claire shops for service as P-7d's on the Cincinnati train operating between Baltimore and Cincinnati. The "Cincinnati" has been imported as a brass engine and occasionally one is found for sale, but at prices beyond my engine budget, so I choose to build one. My steam

locomotive started as a Bachmann Spectrum Penny K-4, 4-6-2 that I modified to closely capture the appearance and features of the B&O 4-6-2, P-7d (Cincinnati) number 5301. The Penny K-4, USRA heavy Pacific and the B&O P-7d were very similar in size, wheel size and wheel spacing (MR Cyclopedia-Volume 1, Steam Locomotives, by Linn Westcott); therefore the K-4 is a good starting point for modeling the P-7d.



My planning drawing for streamlining the engine:



Illinois Terminal's 12th Street Tunnel

by Ron Gawedzinski

On Thursday, October 28, 7:00 PM, Bill Heger, a member of the St. Louis Chapter of the National Railway Historical Society, presents *The 12th St. Tunnel: St. Louis' Other Railroad Station* at the Cliff Cave Branch of the St. Louis County Library, 5430 Telegraph Rd., in south St. Louis County, Missouri. Don't miss this opportunity to learn the history of the tunnel which delivered commuters to downtown St. Louis and boxcars of newsprint to the city's daily papers, as well as the electric interurban railroad that ran in it, the Illinois Terminal Railroad. Light refreshments will be served. Open to the public."

Construction:

Engine: Like the prototype, I started with an existing frame/boiler and clad over the existing boiler with a new scratchbuilt streamlined cladding, pilot,

smokebox front and cab. First the engine was disassembled and the Belpaire firebox was ground off; then that area was covered with a layer of .010-styrene sheet; length-wise stringers/ running boards were made

from styrene strips; a styrene disc was made and applied to the smokebox front; all of which served as guides/supports for the new .020-styrene boiler wrap that was bonded to the 'stringers' with plastic solvent cement and clamped in a vise to hold it shape while drying. The sand dome was removed, reshaped, rotated 90 degrees and reinstalled. The air pump was removed from the side of the boiler because on the B&O it was in the streamlined pilot.

The smokebox front was formed from multiple layers of styrene sheet discs bonded together, sanded to shape and the gaps filled with plastic putty and sanded to final shape; a hole was drilled to accept a styrene tube for the headlight. Styrene Filler plates were added between the stack and the domes, also between the domes and the valves. Steps were cut into to the sides of the boiler cladding with a #11 X-Acto blade and the gap between the new cladding and the old boiler were filled with plastic putty.

The cab and side skirts were fabricated from .040-styrene sheet and bonded to together with plastic solvent adhesive. Holes for handrail stanchions were drilled through the boiler cladding to accept the stanchions from the Bachmann engine.

The pilot and steps were fabricated from various thickness of styrene sheet and bonded together with plastic solvent adhesive. Then sanded smooth to blend together.

The cab roof was made from .040-styrene sheet formed to the curved shaped and bonded to cab sides with plastic solvent adhesive.

The trim strips and window frames were made from .020-brass wire that I annealed, bent to shape, soldered together and bonded in place with CA adhesive. All handrails were formed

from .020-brass wire. Brass grab irons fabricated and installed on the boiler. A Cal-Scale brass B&O Capital Plate was added to the pilot, as were classification light to the smokebox.

Tender: Working from the prototype drawing and photos, I scratchbuilt the tender body and frame from styrene sheet and shapes that were bonded together with plastic solvent adhesive. 1/2" diameter styrene tubing was slit lengthwise to form the curved top edge. The curved roof over the recess was formed from .030-styrene sheet.

The top deck of the tender was made from .020-styrene sheet and is removable for access to electronics. The steps, handrails, ladders, cut lever, brake gear and coal bunker doors were reused from the Bachmann tender and installed on the new body. A Kadee coupler was installed and Precision Scale's brass Commonwealth six-wheel brass tender trucks were assembled and installed. Also, Cal Scale's brass air-hoses and steam line were installed.

Electronics: This Bachmann engine did not have DCC or Sound; I discarded the PC boards and lights, then installed a NCE motor decoder and MRC sound decoder in the tender, which I hardwired to the engine. Also, I installed a LED headlight and LED tender backup light. The tender wheels and the engine drivers provide electrical pickup.

Finish and Lettering: The engine and tender were primed, using an airbrush, with Floquil enamel Primer; then Floquil Engine Black was airbrushed, the black areas masked and then airbrushed with Floquil Dark Blue. The handrails, trim and window frames were given a brush coat of silver enamel. The entire engine/tender were airbrushed with Floquil Clear Gloss enamel in preparation for decals. The road name, Cincinnati signs and numbers, I generated on my computer and

transferred them to decal paper and applied them to the model. Model Graphics dry transfer silver stripes were applied. The model was again airbrushed with Floquil Clear Gloss enamel to protect the decals. The model was then lightly weathered (using an airbrush, with thinned Floquil Grimey Black and Grime) since the Cincinnati was a crack B&O passenger train and was keep clean with only the grime and soot accumulated from its daily run.

Scratchbuilt: The engine's streamlined pilot, boiler, cab, handrails, trim and window frames are scratchbuilt, and also the tender body and frame were scratchbuilt. The decals were scratchbuilt using a computer.

9. /articles/civil-war1.htm 1,124 1.3%
10. /layouts.htm 1,123 1.3%
11. /dcc.htm 1,072 1.24%
12. /project10.htm 1,042 1.2%
13. /project09.htm 1,010 1.16%
14. /models.htm 994 1.15%
15. /designops.htm 972 1.12%
16. /structure.htm 933 1.08%
17. /project12.htm 932 1.07%

Top Downloaded PDF Files

1. /rpo/rpo-v18n2.pdf 425 9.97%
2. /rpo/RPO-V18N1.pdf 314 7.37%
3. /newsroom/WFP-Picnic-2010.pdf 188 4.41%
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7. /rpo/RPO-V14N2.pdf 99 2.32%
8. /rpo/RPO-V17N1.pdf 93 2.18%
9. /rpo/RPO-V16N2.pdf 92 2.16%
10. /rpo/RPO-V4N3.pdf 89 2.08%

Interesting Referring Sites by Visits

11. <http://knol.google.com/> 475 0.78%
17. <http://www.modelrailroadingforums.com/> 209 0.34%
24. <http://cs.trains.com/> 108 0.17%
27. <http://modelrailroading.wordpress.com/> 101 0.16%
35. <http://www.trainboard.com/> 84 0.13%
47. <http://interior-design-photos-gallery.blogspot.com/> 59 0.09%
52. <http://www.opsig.org/> 51 0.08%
55. <http://en.wikipedia.org/> 46 0.07%
71. <http://www.railsusa.com/> 33 0.05%
76. <http://www.wiringfordcc.com/> 31 0.05%

Most Active Countries by Visits

1. United States 43,208 83.89%
2. Canada 892 1.73%
3. AU 768 1.49%
4. Russian Federation 685 1.33%
5. Germany 581 1.12%
6. South Africa 457 0.88%
7. Italy 449 0.87%
8. Japan 429 0.83%
9. Netherlands 271 0.52%
10. Mexico 269 0.52%
11. Singapore 269 0.52%
12. Brazil 259 0.5%
13. UK 252 0.48%
14. France 224 0.43%
15. Sweden 197 0.38%
16. India 183 0.35%
17. Argentina 171 0.33%
18. New Zealand (Aotearoa) 165 0.32%
19. Belgium 121 0.23%
20. Thailand 104 0.2%

Website Stats

by Richard Schumacher

The Division website, www.gatewaynmra.org, gets a variety of metrics reported on a monthly basis. Some of the more interesting: Page Views (Impressions) 87,431 (about 2,914/day)

Visits 60,355 (about 2,011/day)

Average Number of Visitors per day on Weekdays 2,023

Average Number of Visitors for the entire Weekend 3,960

Successful Hits For Entire Site 2,638,732 (about 87,957/day)

Bandwidth: Kbytes Transferred For Month 24,845,576 kbytes

Top Pages by Views

1. www.gatewaynmra.org/ 9,282 10.74%
2. /project.htm 5,262 6.09%
3. /download.htm 2,508 2.9%
4. /dcc/dccdecoders.htm 1,346 1.55%
5. /projectmr.htm 1,306 1.51%
6. /mhslayout/mhslayout.htm 1,285 1.48%
7. /project15.htm 1,268 1.46%
8. /library.htm 1,136 1.31%

Google Analytics Metrics

PDF Documents with selected report details are attached.

67,577 pageviews - only html page views with javascript activated in the browser (this means that images and pdfs on our site were directly used 19,854 times from other sites – about 4,260 of those are pdf downloads)

Traffic: 9.31% direct, 65.17% organic search, 24.53% referrals, 0.98% other (RSS, twitter, etc)

Referring sites sent traffic via 355 sources

Search sent traffic via 14 sources and 6,800 keywords

1. google 79.4%
2. yahoo 8.7%
3. bing 6.6%
4. search 2.1%
5. aol 1.9%
6. ask 1.3%

0.22% visits used site search

293 page titles were viewed a total of 67,577 times

Top Content by Title

1. Small HO Scale Model Railroad Layouts with Track Plans | Gateway Central Train Layout 8,236
2. Model Trains and Model Railroads | Gateway Division NMRA | Gateway to Model Railroading Fun (home page) 3,127
3. Scale Model Railroad Download Page | Signs, Interiors and Backgrounds | Gateway NMRA 2,834
4. Directory of Greater St. Louis Area Model Railroad and Train Layouts | Gateway NMRA 1,878
5. HO Scale Small Switching Model Railroad | Designing the Gateway Central XV 1,759
6. 4x8 HO Scale Model Railroad Layout Display at the Missouri Historical Society | St. Louis 1,734
7. Model Railroad & Model Train Article Library | Tips, Tricks, Photos & Techniques | Gateway NMRA 1,657
8. 4x8 HO Model Railroad Track Plan | Gateway 2001 National Train Show Model Railroader Magazine Layout 1,424
9. 2005 Riverport Theme Model Railroad Layout | Gateway Central XII (2005) | Gateway NMRA 1,373

10. Dave Roeder Webster Groves & Fenton HO Scale Model Railroad Layout | Page 1 of 3 1,313
11. Model Railroad DCC | Digital Command Control for Model Train Layouts 1,277
12. Gateway Central X (2003) Small HO Scale Model Railroad Layout with photos and trackplan 1,262
13. Contest and Award Winning Train Models and Photos | Gateway NMRA 1,235
14. 2009 Train Show Railroad Model and Photo Contest | Gateway Division NMRA 1,157
15. Greater St. Louis Area Model Railroad and Train Layouts | Page 3 | K-O | Gateway NMRA 1,154
16. Trains and Railroads in the Civil War 1,097
17. Small HO Scale Model Railroad Layout | Gateway Central IX (2002) Project Train Layout 1,036
18. Build a Small HO Scale Switching Layout | Track Plan & Parts List 1,023
19. Designing Model Railroad Operations | Quick Start Techniques and Examples 1,003
20. Greater St. Louis Area Model Railroad and Train Layouts | Page 1 | A-B | Gateway NMRA 975
21. 4x8 HO Scale Small Model Railroad Layout | Gateway Central IV | 1997 Project Train Layout 920
22. HO Scale Model Buildings and Structures on the Missouri History Museum Train Layout, Page 1 844
23. Bob Johnson Pseudo-Soo HO Scale Model Railroad Layout | Page 1 of 3 820
24. Greater St. Louis Area Model Railroad and Train Layouts | Page 2 | C-J | Gateway NMRA 802
25. Basics of Building Plastic Structures for your Model Railroad, with step-by-step photos 766

Interesting Referring Sites

4. findhow.com 133
7. opsig.org 79
8. knol.google.com 74
10. en.wikipedia.org 67
12. modelrailroadforums.com 62
18. wiringfordcc.com 43
25. model-railroad-hobbyist.com 30
27. forum.atlasrr.com 28
29. cs.trains.com 27
32. ja.wikipedia.org 26
33. all-model-railroading.co.uk 25
34. railserve.com 25
35. thewhistlepost.com 25
36. trainsarefun.com 25
40. mvns.railfan.net 23

Company House Contest

photos by Phil Bonzon, MMR
A Company House structure kit donated by American Model Builders was passed out for free to all members attending the May meeting. Members then took the kit home, built and detailed it, and brought the model back to the September meeting to show off their best modeling skills. John Heitzman of AMB acted as judge, and prizes were given for first, second, and third places.



Phil Bonzon, MMR



The house built by Phil Bonzon, MMR took 1st place.



Dick Wegner



Dick Wegner placed 2nd



Gregor Moe



Gregor Moe took 3rd place



Dave Bartz, MMR



Bill Linson



Chris Oestreich



Bill Wiese



Scott Bauer



Dave Lyon



Tim Stout



John Heitzman examines our handiwork



Jerry Jungers



Bonnie Moe



Mike Thomas

You're Invited

Brian Post is hosting his 9th Annual New Year's Open House on his Sierra Nevada & Indian River Railway

Saturday, January 1, 2011

10AM to 6PM

Address 248 Pardella, 63125

Bring a Digitrax throttle, your favorite locomotive, some rolling stock, or whatever you'd like to run and have fun.

MCoR Officer Elections

Elections for the MCoR Officer positions of President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer are scheduled for the spring of 2011. In order to prepare the ballot in time for mailing for the election, the Election Committee Chairman is requesting all potential candidates submit their candidate biographies of 500 words or less to:

Marty Vaughn MMR
234 Meadowbrook Lane
Wellsville
KS 66092
Email: wmmaughn@mchsi.com

All biographies must list the candidates name and address and the position they are seeking. Light editing of the biographies may be done for clarity or if they exceed 500 words.

All biographies must be received or postmarked by 15 December 2010. Email submission of the biographies is PREFERRED, but hard copies by US mail will be accepted if postmarked by the submission deadline.

For those of you interested in the Achievement Program, serving as a Region Officer is time credited toward the Official AP Certificate.

If you have any questions regarding the elections, please contact the Elections Chairman at the email address above.

Division Minutes

recorded by Don Ayres, Clerk

Gateway Division Meeting Minutes for March 15, 2010

CLINIC: Tonight's clinic was "member slide night". Three members got the opportunity to make a presentation to the group. First up was George Spriggs, who showed pictures of several prototype scenes, followed by his modeled version of the scene. Nice modeling, George! Second, Tim showed several slides of a rail car custom built to transport fish. Then Don showed slides and talked about the Ohio Central Railroad excursion train ride and their steam locomotives.

BUSINESS MEETING

The Superintendent called the meeting to order at 8:00PM. There were 22 members in attendance and one guest: Al Tornabeni, an aspiring N scale modeler.

Minutes of the January Meeting

The minutes were approved as read. Corrected minutes are published in our quarterly publication, the RPO.

Treasurers Report : Dave returned following his convalescence from a "minor" back surgery and reported that "not a whole lot went on" in the last month. He went on to answer Mike Thomas's question of two months ago as follows: the miscellaneous expense in the administration category of the 2009 annual summary, the \$1575 went mostly towards purchasing kits for the kitbashing clinic (\$800), also, the WF+P picnic, and museum trip (\$375) expenses, and other minor items. He reminded us that there was \$4500 which was transferred from savings to checking last year. Dave will be changing his report format this year so that it is a bit easier to understand in this area. The report was

approved, and all questions from prior meetings were answered. Jim Anderson asked Phil if the Division had received the payout from Region for the members at Division level. Answer: he will check on the status of this.

Merchandise Report: We have only 33" wheelsets in stock now. All 36" have been sold. We also have a few track gauges, but none in HO scale. Hank recommended that we purchase some HO scale track gauges to have on hand.

RPO Report: Mike will start putting the next issue together in about two weeks. Don and Hank both owe him information.

Directors Report: Two chat groups will be set up on National's website pertaining to the following areas: AP Program, and Ask the Masters, in which Master Model Railroaders will respond to members questions. Phil also reminded everyone about the details of the UP photo contest.

Activity Report: In Ron's absence, Hank passed along info about the following joint activities with National Railway Historical Society which are being coordinated:

1. The tour of Gateway Rail Services facility will be from 10-12 AM, Saturday, 15 May. They refurbish and lease or sell passenger cars. Following lunch, the group will move on and tour the Granite City passenger terminal from 1-3PM. Free.

2. UPRR Operation Lifesaver free train ride, Wednesday, May 19 from Pacific to Hermann to Pacific Missouri. UP will use 2 locomotives with the heritage paint schemes for this ride aimed at school age kids. There's plenty of room, though, so some of our own kids have signed up!

Achievement Program (AP) Report: Don Taschner was not present. No Report. Hank reminded everyone of how easy it was to download the forms from the internet.

Monthly Meeting Clinician Report: May – Not only will the contest structure kit (details below) be passed out, but Pete Smith, MMR will provide us inspiration on what he has done with the Company House kit that we will be building.

Also, Phil will show the Marty Vaughn presentation on the Achievement Program.

Old Business: At the recent Collinsville show, 32 Rail pass apps were taken, 33 insurance applications, and 7 full year membership applications. Hopefully, we get some new members out of this!!!

Hank reminded everyone about the details of the upcoming structure contest: A structure kit from American Model Builders will be passed out for free to all attending members. The kit will be the Company House. Members are to take the kit home, build it, detail it, and plan to bring the

model back to a future meeting to show off their best modeling skills! Since this is a rather simple kit, the rules for this contest will be a bit different from last year. This year there will be a pair of first and second prizes; the first for building and decorating/detailing the exterior of the structure while the second will be given for detailing the interior.

The annual Officers Planning Meeting was held in January. Hank highlighted several points and provided the following updates:

Recruitment – Hank will finalize a survey that will be sent to previously active members who have become less active. Open

Displays – Don will update the tabletop display, and detailed his plan. This is the 3 panel display that tells about the Gateway Division, the Mid-Continent Region, and the NMRA at shows. Don will have this updated and ready for the fall shows. CLOSED. No one at this meeting knows where the 8' banner is. An e-mail appeal was sent out to all members asking about the whereabouts. CLOSED.

Shirts – New information has come in reference the logo we wanted to use (the old logo with National's coupler on spoke wheel logo, cut out in the center with arch inserted, was decided on last month). There may be changes in the works at National reference the logo. It was decided that it was in our best interest to wait and see what National does this summer. TABLED.

Hank announced the winner of the 2009 attendance prize: Two members tied, and therefore, 2 prizes were handed out; Phil Bonzon, and Ron Kraus were each awarded 2 ten dollar gift certificates to Mark Twain Hobbies. He announced the same promotion is being offered for 2010 calendar year. CLOSED for this year. Phil, membership chair, has put together a recruiting poster that will be a "tear off" that people at shows can take along with them from shows, and they will also be placed at hobby shops. He will show us the final product next month. OPEN.

New Business: We will be hosting the convention 2012 MCoR Convention. The last one we hosted was in 2004. Many volunteers will be required to pull this off. Planning for this will start in 2011. Mark your calendars!

Announcements: Hank announced that we received a nice thank you note from Brad Joseph for the Winter 2010 RPO which was dedicated to Dee Joseph. Several extra copies were given to the family as mementos.

UP steam may be in Sedalia this fall late this Sep or Oct.

Illinois Traction Group 2010 annual meeting will be on April 24.

The train ride to DC by private car sponsored by NRHS date changed to June 4 – 11.

Ron Kraus has donated a license of Norton Internet Security to be installed on the Division's laptop computer. Thanks, Ron!

Perpetual Announcements: An Operating Model Railroad Display will be at Highland Middle School in Highland IL, on May 15 and 16.

The 2010 MCoR convention will be in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, June 10-14.

The 75th Anniversary NMRA Convention will be held in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, July 11–18.

30th Annual National Narrow Gauge Convention will be held in St Charles Convention Center, September 1- 4.

Our own Fall Meet will be 13 Nov, one week later than usual. Start planning your clinic now!!

50/50: Thirty five dollars was collected, and Dale Talbott won the drawing and took home \$17.50, and the treasury was likewise enriched by the same amount. Phil won the Mark Twain Hobbies gift card.

Adjournment: Dave Bartz made a motion to adjourn at 8:50PM; the motion was seconded by a unanimous chorus!

Gateway Division Meeting Minutes for April 19, 2010

CLINIC: Phil demonstrated the techniques that he uses to weather his steam and diesel locomotives. He brought several of his locomotives so that everyone could see the results first hand. He did a great job in spite of the fact that the Division's laptop decided that it didn't like the PowerPoint file that he brought with him. (A big "thanks anyway" goes to Jimmy Ables for trying to fix this incompatibility.) Luckily, Phil had discs available for everyone to take a copy of his presentation. Hope you had better luck on your home machine!

BUSINESS MEETING

The Superintendent called the meeting to order at 7:15PM. There were 18 regular members in attendance, and one "new guy". Larry Wodell has transferred from a division in Michigan. He is an HO scale modeler, and a Wabash fan. Welcome!

Minutes of the March Meeting: The minutes were approved as read. Corrected minutes are published in our quarterly publication, the RPO.

Treasurers Report: Dave again reported that "not a whole lot went on" in the last month. The income was substantially from wheelset sales, and also the rest of the donated freight car kits have been sold. Some interest income from our State Farm savings was credited. Dave has not

yet received the payout from the Region for 2010 membership.

Merchandise Report: We have only 33" wheelsets in stock now, and supplies are dwindling. All 36" have been sold. Tim will inquire with National about replenishing our supply of HO gauge scales.

RPO Report: Mike Thomas was not present. No report.

Directors Report: Phil was present, but had nothing to report.

Activity Report: Ron reviewed the following upcoming joint activities with the National Railway Historical Society (NRHS):

1. The tour of Gateway Rail Services facility will be from 10-12 AM, Saturday, 15 May. They refurbish and lease or sell passenger cars.

Following lunch, the group will move on and tour the Granite City passenger terminal from 1-3PM. Free.

2. UPRR Operation Lifesaver free train ride, Wednesday, May 19 from Pacific to Hermann to Pacific Missouri. UP will use 2 locomotives with the heritage paint schemes for this ride aimed at school age kids.

3. The full train excursion that NRHS was trying to put together in September, going to St Genevieve, has unfortunately been cancelled, due mostly to killer insurance costs.

Achievement Program (AP) Report: Don Taschner was not present. No Report.

Monthly Meeting Clinician Report: Tim talked only about the clinic for the May meeting. If you're reading this, you've just seen it!

Old Business: Hank reminded everyone about the details of the upcoming structure contest: A structure kit from American Model Builders will be passed out for free to all attending members. The kit will be the Company House. Members are to take the kit home, build it, detail it, and plan to bring the model back to a future meeting to show off their best modeling skills! Since this is a

rather simple kit, the rules for this contest will be a bit different from last year. This year there will be a pair of first and second prizes; the first for building and decorating/detailing the exterior of the structure while the second will be given for detailing the interior. AMB has agreed to donate to us the kits required to pull off this clinic. Many thanks to John Heitzman of AMB who may also be here to judge!

The annual Officers Planning Meeting was held in January. Hank highlighted several points and provided the following updates:

Recruitment – Hank will finalize a survey that will be sent to previously active members who have become less active. OPEN.

Closed items: Hank pinged the group again for the lost banner, and reminded everyone that the

polo shirt purchase has been postponed. Don passed out the old mounted magazine covers from the display to members who agreed to hand them off to the layout owner.

Phil, membership chair, has put together a recruiting poster that will be a "tear off" that people at shows can take along with them from shows, and they will also be placed at hobby shops. They are on order with the printer and should have them available at next month's meeting. OPEN.

New Business: Kevin Feeney, National's Treasurer, sent us a letter thanking us for our 1/3 participation in the "Heart of America Fund".

(Following the 2001 National show in St Louis, the Division donated \$15,000 to this fund, matching the donations of Kansas City's Turkey Creek Division and MCoR to bring the fund up to \$45,000. Monies in this fund help NMRA to research, produce, and publish books.)

He said that so far this fund has enabled the NMRA to publish the book Post War Freight Car Fleet, and Dean Freytag's Steel Book. The funds are replenished when the publication shows a profit, so that the original money is available for the next publication. Future projects include books on the lumber industry and another on the concrete

/cement industry. CLOSED.

Ron Gawedzinski and Fred Blank of the NRHS sent us a letter soliciting donations for the cosmetic restoration of the Wabash steam locomotive #574. Hank read the letter, and then Ron added detail about how the locomotive, now resting at the Museum of Transport in St Louis, was used in service. Ron Kraus made a motion that Gateway Division donate \$500. Phil seconded. After some discussion by the members, Ron amended his motion to \$250 and this was again seconded by Phil. MOTION PASSED. Dave will prepare a check. For more information about the locomotive itself, or to make a private donation, visit

http://www.stlouisnrhs.org/wabash_573.htm

Phil mentioned that Pere Marquette #1225, now based in Michigan, also was looking for donations, if any member would care to make a personal donation. No motion was offered. CLOSED.

Announcements: Pete Smith talked about the upcoming 30th Annual National Narrow Gauge Convention, which will be held at the St Charles Convention Center, September 1- 4. He highlighted each day's activities. He encouraged everyone to give the convention a try – after all, it's right in our own back yard!

Bob Amsler reminded everyone about the details of the Union Pacific Photo contest and provided the following additional information: The top 10 photos will be printed in the UP employee

magazine. In addition to the steam locomotive cab ride which is being awarded to the winner, the first prize also includes any airfare and hotel stay necessary.

50/50: Twenty-six dollars was collected, and Pete Smith won the drawing and took home \$13.00, and the treasury was likewise enriched by the same amount. Phil won the Mark Twain Hobbies gift card AGAIN !!!

Adjournment: Jimmy Ables made a motion to adjourn the business meeting at 8:10PM (clinic to follow); the motion was seconded by a unanimous chorus!

Gateway Division Meeting Minutes for May 17, 2010

CLINIC: Pete Smith presented tips on building a wood structure. There were 3 examples available for viewing. Phil then talked about how an AP judge would relate a simple wooden structure kit to the AP guidelines. He also showed his paperwork that was submitted for his "Cars" certificate.

Also, the AMB structure kit was passed out this evening. See Old Business.

BUSINESS MEETING

The Superintendent called the meeting to order at 8:17 PM. There were 40 regular members in attendance, including 4 new or returning members of the NMRA. Additionally, two guests were present: Frank Karr and Dorothy Martin. Frank is an HO scale modeler. Dorothy was accompanying her husband Matt.

Minutes of the April Meeting: The minutes were APPROVED as read. Corrected minutes are published in our quarterly publication, the RPO.

Treasurers Report: Dave reported that "practically nothing went on" in the last month. Report APPROVED.

Merchandise Report: Some 33" wheelsets are in stock now, but supplies are dwindling. He will order 36" wheelsets as part of the next order. Tim will let us know when the HO scale track gauges are in stock.

RPO Report: Mike Thomas had the spring issue available for members to pick up at the meeting. He will mail the rest. Deadline for article submissions for the summer issue is July 1st.

Directors Report: Phil said that the next Board of Directors meeting will be June 12. He has already forwarded his report, but will update with new membership numbers.

Activity Report: In Ron's absence, Hank reviewed the following upcoming joint activities with the National Railway Historical Society:

Last chance to sign up for the Union Pacific “Operation Lifesaver” excursion train ride originating in Pacific, MO.

Ron is still working on getting the details of the visit to the Barriger library, on the UMSL campus, nailed down.

Phil is considering putting together an “operations weekend”, where there would be six layouts open that members could sign up to operate on. So far he has 3 volunteers to host. Hank asked for a show of hands to find out how much interest there was in attending. About 15 hands were hoisted. Phil is looking at September for this event which will fall in nicely after our 2 clinics on “operations”.

Achievement Program (AP) Report: Don Taschner had nothing new to report.

Monthly Meeting Clinician Report: Tim announced the following clinic subjects:

June – Bob Johnson and Rich Lake will begin an instructional clinic that will last into next month on the subject of “operations”.

July – The “operations” clinic concludes with 2 more speakers.

Old Business: Hank passed out the rules and prize list for the structure contest: Many thanks to John Heitzman of AMB for donating the additional kits required to pull off this contest. He hopefully will be here to judge at the September meeting!

The annual Officers Planning Meeting was held in January. Hank highlighted several points and provided the following updates:

Hank brought up the missing “NMRA” banner that was used at shows again since so many members were present. No one volunteered any information on its whereabouts. Still CLOSED. Recruitment – Hank will finalize a survey that will be sent to previously active members who have become less active. OPEN.

Phil, membership chair, had the recruiting posters that will be a “tear off” that people at shows can take along with them from shows, and they will also be placed at hobby shops. They were passed out to members who agreed to deliver them to local hobby shops, and also monitor them and replenish as necessary. CLOSED.

New Business: No new business.

Announcements: Hank mentioned that we so have added 10 new members since last November!

Hank had a flyer available for an upcoming train show in Bentonville, Arkansas.

Pete Smith again pitched the Narrow Gauge Convention (details below).

Hank reminded everyone that it’s renewal time for the “mailing fee” for those who like to receive

the RPO and meeting announcements via regular “snail” mail. The cost is \$5 a year, due in June.

Tim thanked Ron Gawedzinski for putting together the trip to Gateway Rail Services.

50/50: Sixty (!) dollars was collected, and Hank won the drawing and took home \$30.00, and the treasury was likewise enriched by the same amount. Dale Talbott won the Mark Twain Hobbies gift card in the second drawing.

Adjournment: Don Ayres made the motion to adjourn at 8:52 PM.

Gateway Division Meeting Minutes for June 21, 2010

CLINIC: Tonight was the first of 2 nights that “operations” will be the subject. The first clinician was Bob Johnson who talked about car cards and waybills, and showed us his own version of the widely used Micro-Mark cards. In his presentation, he used the analogy of a board game with its playing surface (the layout), pieces (the trains), and strategy (getting the cars to the proper industry or yard). Next, Rich Lake instructed the group on track warrants, a system of controlling trains whereby the Dispatcher gives orders to a particular train (and the operator repeats the order back to the dispatcher) to go to a particular locale. Then the train must then wait for a new warrant to proceed. Rich had an exercise for the group that showed the logic of how he would issue warrants to particular trains on his layout to maximize traffic flow. Thanks to both excellent speakers!

BUSINESS MEETING

(Due to the length of the clinic, the business meeting was extremely short!) Hank called the meeting to order at 8:40 PM. There were 19 members and one guest in attendance: Vicki Siering, who is starting to get interested in our hobby! Welcome!

Minutes of the May Meeting: A motion was quickly made by Phil to approve the minutes, and Dick Wegner seconded. MOTION PASSED. Corrected minutes are published in our quarterly publication, the RPO.

Treasurers Report: Rich Lake made a motion to accept the report, and Phil seconded. MOTION PASSED. (While a motion and majority vote are not required for “passage” of the minutes and treasurers report, it sure made things go faster!)

Merchandise Report: Tim reported that our supply of wheelsets that the Division buys for resale to members is sold out. Gregor Moe made a motion to purchase 100 more packages. Rich Lake seconded. Some discussion followed reference the exact quantities that would be bought of the 3 sizes: 33”, 36”, and near scale.

MOTION PASSED. Hopefully, they will be available at the next regular meeting.

RPO Report: Mike Thomas asked that any last minute articles be submitted soon. He will begin assembling the summer issue after July 1st.

Directors Report: Phil recently attended the Region meeting, and had the following news for us: The 2011 Regional Convention will be in Norfolk, Nebraska, while the final awarding of the 2012 has been tabled until the January meeting. The Caboose Kitbitzer magazine is “looking promising” that it will still continue to be published in print. (Eliminating this was considered as a cost saving measure.) Also, the dues distribution to the Divisions will occur this month.

Activity Report: Phil talked about the operating sessions that he has put together for September 17 and 18. There will be 2 layouts open for each of 3 sessions that will occur on Fri at 6:30 PM, and Saturday at 9:00AM and 2:00 PM. Phil said that additional information and sign-up for the sessions will occur through the GD website. He urged everyone to sign up for the “RSS Feed” so that they can be notified as soon as registration opens.

Ron reviewed the following upcoming joint activities with the National Railway Historical Society (NRHS):

Ron thanked everyone who participated in the tour of Gateway Rail Services. Thirty Division members attended. He also thanked the 29 GD members who attended the UP Operation Lifesaver train ride.

He also talked about the upcoming annual picnic at the WF+P Railroad location in Glencoe, Missouri, and made an urgent appeal for volunteers for some of the various jobs that are required to pull off this event. He had signup sheets available. Picnic will be held on September 25th from 11:00 AM until 4:00 PM. The Barriger library tour is still coming up – now in October. He’s had a difficult time getting this scheduled as he is trying to steer around activities of both groups and the host.

Achievement Program (AP) Report: Don Taschner was not present. No Report.

Monthly Meeting Clinician Report: Tim highlighted upcoming clinics: In July, the discussions of different types of operations will continue with speakers Gene Coffman and John Schindler will wrap it all up. The August clinic will feature instruction on how to handlay turnouts. Old Business: The annual Officers Planning Meeting was held in January. The following few items remain open:

Recruitment – Hank has finalized the survey that will be sent to previously active members who have become less active. He has begun sending out the surveys to people who he knows are still

minimally active. He has sent out 30 surveys so far. OPEN.

Tabletop Display – The Clerk has taken on the responsibility for updating the display used at train shows that promotes NMRA, Region, and Division membership. No progress in the last month, but the display will be ready for the fall shows. REOPENED.

New Business: No new business.

Announcements: No announcements.

50/50: Thirty two dollars was collected, and Jim Anderson won the drawing and took home \$16.00, and the treasury was likewise enriched by the same amount. Tim won the Mark Twain Hobbies gift card.

Adjournment: Rich Lake made a motion to adjourn the business meeting at 8:56 PM, and the motion was seconded by a unanimous chorus!

Gateway Division Meeting Minutes for July 19, 2010

CLINIC: . Tonight was part two of the clinics on operations. First, Gene Coffman talked a computer program called RailOp which generates lists of cars for destinations that make up a train. Operators only have to carry one sheet of instructions vs. one card for every car in a train. John Schindler summarized all 3 methods of operation that have been talked about. He also talked about courtesy when operating someone else’s railroad, and gave out some additional tips and tricks for operations. Don’t forget to take your nail apron to the next ops session! Thanks to both excellent speakers!

BUSINESS MEETING

The Superintendent called the business meeting to order at 8:12 PM. There were 35 members present tonight and seven guests: Fred Houska, Ali Shahriary, Bob Sanderson, Vince York, George Feters, Larry Brown, and Joanne Schindler, member John’s wife.

Minutes of the June Meeting: A motion was made by Phil to approve the minutes, and seconded by John Stork. MOTION PASSED. Corrected minutes are published in our quarterly publication, the RPO.

Treasurers Report: Dave quickly summarized all of the expenditures and receipts. The high dollar item for this month was the expenditure for the wheelsets that the Division has purchased for resale. Dave fielded a few questions, and the report was ACCEPTED as presented.

Merchandise Report: Tim has not yet received the wheelsets from Intermountain.

RPO Report: Mike Thomas had the summer RPO with him and offered that all present could pick up their copy. The rest will be mailed tomorrow. He reminded us that Dave is the keeper of the list who have paid their "subscription fee" and that all questions about the status of a member's fee should be referred to the Paymaster. Lastly, the Fall issue of the RPO with directory will go out next time. He asked for any last minute updates to the directory. He also needs to prepare a ballot with officer candidates for 2011. Deadline for submissions is Oct 1.

Directors Report: Richard Napper has resigned his position in the membership department at Region.

Activity Report: Phil talked about the operating sessions that he has put together for September 17 and 18. There will be 2 layouts open for each of 3 sessions that will occur on Fri at 6:30 PM, and Saturday at 9:00AM and 2:00 PM. Phil said that additional information and sign-up for the sessions will occur through the GD website. Registration is open and he's already had several people sign up for sessions. There was additional comments from several members promoting the fun to be had participating in an ops session. Don't be afraid to sign up if you haven't tried it!

Ron sent along 2 signup sheets for the picnic, one for attendance and one for volunteers. Picnic will be held on September 25th from 11:00 AM until 4:00 PM.

The Barriger library tour is now scheduled for October 23. A signup sheet was available to sign up to attend this event.

Achievement Program (AP) Report: Don Taschner was not present, but Phil announced that Gene Coffman, Scott Bauer, John Carty, Jerry Junger, and Ed Bailey are all working on various certificates.

Monthly Meeting Clinician Report: Larry Wodell will demonstrate hand laying turnouts in August. For the September meeting, members are reminded to bring in their completed AMB structure kits that were passed out at the May meeting. There will be a popular vote conducted in two categories with a total of 4 prizes awarded.

Old Business: The annual Officers Planning Meeting was held in January. The following few items remain open:
Recruitment – Hank has sent out 30 surveys to previously active members who have become less active. He has received back 9. He will compile the results, tweak the questionnaire if necessary, and send out more surveys to less active, or formerly active, members. OPEN.
Tabletop Display – The Clerk is updating the display used at train shows that promotes NMRA, Region, and Division membership. It will include

copies of RPO, Kibitzer, and magazine covers and photo's of members' layouts. Two of the 3 informational posters are complete in content, with the exception of substituting in the new NMRA logo. Magazine covers and other artwork are selected. All items still need to be printed on photo paper and mounted. The display will be ready for the fall shows. OPEN.

New Business: John Kalin spoke about the upcoming 2010 Narrow Gauge Convention (details below). John requested that the Division, and therefore the NMRA, sponsor the event. Some discussion followed. A deal was struck whereby the Narrow Gauge Convention would provide the Division a table at the show for member recruiting in exchange for the sponsorship of the event. Rich Lake made a motion that the Gateway Division would sponsor the Narrow Gauge Convention. Gary Gross and Dave Lyon simultaneously seconded the motion. MOTION PASSED. CLOSED.

Announcements: Hank took 2 of Phil's models to be judged at the National Convention and announced the following: not only did he earn Merit Awards for both models, but he was awarded Honorable Mention on his rail car, and he got first place for his scratch built steam engine! He also got the William Lenoir Memorial Award for best scratch built locomotive!! All present gave Phil a hearty round of applause. Member Brad Joseph made a \$7500 donation to National for the digitization of the photo library. Member Bob Amsler has been appointed manager of the Meetings & Trade Show Department at National.

50/50: Thirty eight dollars was collected, and the Clerk won the drawing and took home \$19. The treasury was likewise enriched by \$19. Mark Schuermann won the Mark Twain Hobbies gift card.

Adjournment: Rich Lake made a motion to adjourn the business meeting at 8:56 PM, and the motion was seconded by Gregor Moe. MOTION APPROVED by unanimous chorus!

Gateway Division Meeting Minutes for August 16, 2010

CLINIC: Clinician Larry Wodell demonstrated hand laying turnouts using several products from Fast Tracks. He had one turnout essentially complete in about an hour! He said he could usually complete one in about 40 minutes. I guess we slowed him down with all of the questions he fielded. Thanks for a great demonstration, Larry.

BUSINESS MEETING

The Superintendent called the business meeting to order at 8:35 PM. There were 20 members present, including new member Bill Davis who is returning to the hobby, and 2 guests, Brian McQuitty and Steve Hemmel. Brian is an HO scale modeler modeling the late 70's. Steve is also just starting to build his HO scale layout.

Minutes of the July Meeting: Minutes were APPROVED with one correction. Approved minutes are published in our quarterly publication, the RPO.

Treasurers Report: Dave reported that this was a "rather normal" month. The report reflects the fact that several members have paid their publication fees. It also contained postage and printing costs for the RPO. He went on to say (with his usual soft-spoken, dry sense of humor) that any questions would cost the member \$1. There were no questions! Report APPROVED!

Merchandise Report: Tim received the new wheelset order, and they were available for sale. The trucks were on backorder.

RPO Report: Mike Thomas said that everyone should have gotten their Summer RPO by now. The next RPO is the big one (includes the regular RPO, plus the annual membership directory) that gets mailed out to all members whether they've paid the mailing fee or not. Also due to Mike for this mailing is publicity for the Fall Meet and the roster of officer candidates for calendar year 2011. Deadline is October 1st.

Directors Report: Phil was present, but had no news to report.

Activity Report: Ron talked about the two upcoming joint activities that he has scheduled with the National Railroad Historical Society: A joint picnic will be held on September 25th from 11:00 AM until 4:00 PM at the Wabash, Frisco, and Pacific Railroad location in Glencoe, Missouri. He had 2 signup sheets for the picnic, one for attendance and one for volunteers. He requested donated items that could be used as attendance prizes.

The Barriger National Railroad Library tour (on the UMSL campus) is scheduled for October 23. Ron had an informational flyer with agenda available. A signup sheet was available to sign up to attend this event.

Achievement Program (AP) Report: Don Taschner was not present, but Phil mentioned that there was a Golden Spike Award to give out, but the recipient could not make tonight's meeting.

Monthly Meeting Clinician Report: Tim reminded everyone to bring back their structure kits next month. He also talked about the fall meet briefly and requested additional volunteers to do clinics.

Old Business: The annual Officers Planning Meeting was held in January. The following few items remain open:

Recruitment – Hank has sent out 30 surveys to previously active members who have become less active. He has received back 9. He will compile the results, tweak the questionnaire if necessary, and send out more surveys to less active, or formerly active, members. OPEN.
Tabletop Display – The Clerk is updating the display used at train shows that promotes NMRA, Region, and Division membership. It will include copies of RPO, Kibitzer, and magazine covers and photo's of members' layouts. Don had several of the final information boards that will be affixed to the tabletop display at the meeting for members to view. The display will be ready for the Narrow Gauge Convention. OPEN.
Hank brought up the issue of the polo shirt order that was tabled last spring because National hadn't yet revealed the new logo. He will get a .pdf of the new logo for Don. Don suggested that we consider a logo that spells out "Gateway Division" below National's logo, and further suggested using the St Louis Arch in the logo. Membership was anxious to see samples. OPEN.

New Business: No new business.

Announcements: Pete Smith pitched the Narrow Gauge Convention. Phil reminded those who took responsibility for keeping membership applications available at their local hobby shops to continue checking on supplies.

Hank requested a volunteer who would provide a slide show or video at the Holiday Party in November.

50/50: Twenty-four dollars was collected, and Phil won the drawing and took home \$12. The treasury was likewise enriched by \$12. New member Bill Davis won the Mark Twain Hobbies gift card.

Adjournment: Rich Lake made a motion to adjourn the business meeting at 9:03PM, and the motion was seconded and PASSED at a blinding rate of speed.

NMRA MCoR Region & Gateway Division

The National Model Railroad Association (NMRA) is a world-wide organization dedicated to all aspects of model railroading. In order to bring the most benefit to its members, the association is subdivided into Regions, and each Region has a number of local Divisions. National dues are \$48 per year, and all members of the NMRA are automatically members of the Region and Division in which they live. The Gateway Division is part of the Mid-Continent Region, which represents Missouri, Kansas, Arkansas, Oklahoma, Nebraska, and parts of Iowa and Illinois.

The Mid-Continent Region publishes a quarterly bulletin, The *Caboose Kibitzer*, and holds an annual convention meeting that usually includes modeling clinics, local tours of layouts or prototype facilities, and model contests. Annual subscription to the Mid-Continent Region *Caboose Kibitzer* is \$12 and runs concurrently with membership at the National level.

The Gateway Division is well represented on the regional and national levels of the NMRA. Its members actively promote the modeling hobby through local monthly meetings, this quarterly newsletter, an annual train meet in the fall, participation in area train shows and other events, and a comprehensive website. Annual subscription to the Gateway Division *RPO* is \$5, running from July 1 through June 30. Members who subscribe mid-year are given extended memberships. In addition to the quarterly newsletter, a member directory is published listing names, addresses, and information about individual modeling interests. New members also receive a Division membership pin.

Membership is open to anyone from the beginner to the most advanced modeler, of all ages, so that everyone can share questions and knowledge of the hobby. Visitors are welcome at the monthly Division meetings listed on our website, www.gatewaynmra.org

How to Join

Visit our website, complete the form at <http://gatewaynmra.org/membership.htm>

Division Officers

Superintendent

Hank Kraichely

Assistant Superintendent

Tim Stout

Clerk (Secretary)

Don Ayres

Paymaster (Treasurer)

Dave Lyon

Division Director

Phil Bonzon, MMR

