

RPO

Volume 20, Number 4
Winter 2013
www.gatewaymra.org



RPO

Winter 2013: Volume 20, Number 4

The *RPO* is the official publication
of the Gateway Division
of the National Model Railroad Association

Editor: John Carty

Articles, photos and any other materials for publication are to be sent to the Editor. No payment can be made for publication of any materials. Regular issues are published quarterly: Spring, Summer, Fall, and Winter. Subscriptions to the *RPO* are available to members of the NMRA as a service provided by members of the Gateway Division. Send subscription applications and renewals to the Division Treasurer.

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Articles may be submitted as handwritten, typed, plain unformatted text on disk, or plain text via email to johnpcarty@hotmail.com; photo submissions may be made as hi-res digital files, 35mm slides or negatives or as prints.

Submission deadlines:

Spring: April 1
Summer: July 1
Fall: October 1
Winter: January 1

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On The Cover

photo by Richard Schumacher

Richard's photograph of #844 on Kirkwood Hill, which took Second place at the Gateway Division Contest.

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In Memorium

Mike Braunstein, MMR of Grimsley, Tennessee has informed us that Larry Sayre, a member of our division, passed away of a massive heart attack on January 3, 2013. He was prominent in TT Scale and was often seen at the local train shows scouring the tables for TT trains.

Our thoughts and prayers go out to him and his family. May he rest in peace.

Superintendent's Desk

by Tim Stout

Fellow Gateway members welcome to 2013. This is my first column as Superintendent so let me take a few minutes to tell you about myself. I grew up in Decatur Illinois and went to Millikin University where I earned an

Industrial Engineering degree. I then moved to Litchfield IL for a job following college. I met my wife in Litchfield and we moved out to the country – she wanted horses – I joked a view of some railroad tracks would be nice. We found both and now live in the country about 10 miles south of Litchfield as the crow flies. Turns out this happens to be a busy junction where BNSF switches trains onto and off of the UP line going toward St. Louis, rail fan paradise if you like modern motive power.

I became interested in trains as a kid when I received a Spirit of 76 train set for my birthday and I was hooked. I recall my dad and Uncle Jeff both helping me assemble the tracks into the up and over figure eight as well as connecting the power to the tracks. Dad never has liked electricity so he left that part to Uncle Jeff. In what seemed like a few minutes we had it up and running. My smaller hands had a much easier time putting the cars on the track so I got to do that. That figure eight stayed up for a while – then it was replaced by an oval with a switch siding –for a large container crane. That first switch siding took all day to install – my dad was so precise in every measurement and took great care to leave as small of a gap as possible. Nowadays – the fear that a small gap was going to derail my trains seems laughable.

That 4x8 layout soon filled with buildings of all shapes and sizes as I was getting model railroad related stuff from everyone for X-Mas or my birthday. My dad then made me an offer I couldn't refuse. He wanted to move my layout to the basement and offered to double the size of my layout by making it into an L-shaped layout. How could I say no to doubling the size

of my layout? Soon even the larger layout was full of models. As I grew up and went to college the layout eventually grew into a U-shaped layout taking up 3 sheets of plywood. I could run 3 separate trains all at the same time and it was a pleasure to show it off at family functions. I also updated the layout from 18" radius curves to 22" radius curves because I wanted to run Athearn SD40-2's on my layout and these 6 axle locomotives just wouldn't take 18" radius curves. I still have a video of that layout my Aunt Sharon took for me to use as a high school presentation.

Years later – after college my model railroading took a big turn –I was working in St. Louis and the National NMRA convention came to town. That's when I joined the NMRA – because I had to join the NMRA to go to the convention. What a racket I thought – just sell me a pass to the convention. But I joined anyway and am glad I did. There were so many clinics to see and so many people – I had never heard presentations like those before – all related to model railroading. I really didn't know what to expect and was very pleasantly surprised.

After the convention I didn't go to the monthly meetings for quite a while. Always seemed there was something to do to the house, and I had always been a "lone wolf" model railroader. Then I decided with some urging from my wife to attend a meeting at the Church. Everyone was so pleasant and willing to listen to my model railroading stories and share theirs with me. I became hooked and I have only missed a few meetings since that time. I have served the division as Assistant Superintendent for two years and have been merchandise chairman for I don't

know how long now – but that’s a pretty easy job – the metal wheels sell themselves.

Now I look forward to serving you as Superintendent of the Gateway Division for 2013. Working together we can accomplish anything. I have witnessed the talent and knowledge of the membership and look forward to another successful year of fun, fellowship, and learning, while promoting the hobby we all enjoy. Have a happy New Year and I look forward to seeing you at the meetings and hopefully some other great activities as well.

Under the Wire

by John Carty, Editor

A new year is upon us. I hope that Santa delivered the coal you requested in your stocking. As you might expect with eight children in the home, my family thoroughly enjoyed the holidays. With the college students preparing to return to school shortly, we try to enjoy the time we have together.

2013 will bring new challenges and opportunities, and I hope to make the best of both.

With the cold weather, I look forward to getting more work done on my layout. My biggest problem consists of always seeking to try new things, which always require more time than expected.

In this issue, you will find articles by a couple of members from whom we do not usually hear. Thank you to Tim & Brenda Stout and Jack Stroker.

This issue also inaugurates “Digital Command Corner” penned by Brian Post, the resident expert on digital command control in our division.

Thank you, Brian, Brian for sharing your expertise with us.

Please remember that this publication belongs to all members of the division. If you travel and rail fan, those of us who are unable to do so would like nothing more than to share your experience. Many neat models have appeared in the contest, clinics, and in this magazine. How did you envision and build it? How did you build those trees? Do not worry about what someone else may have written on a particular topic in the past. If you think it is interesting, so will someone else. Please make a resolution this year to submit one item to the RPO. If every member in the division does so, we will have a great year.

John

Digital Command Corner

by Brian Post

How to fix engines running erratically and not obeying commands.

Two major causes of these problems are in batteries that are not working to their full potential and dirty wheels and their surrounding area. Batteries may show 9 volts but not the amperage that they are capable of putting out. There is not an easy way to measure this.

The best solution is to replace the battery with a known good one. Since you will go through many batteries throughout the years, I recommend using rechargeable ones.

You should not only clean your wheels but also look in the area around them, because they will fill up with animal hair and loose material. Ask me how I know this or anyone who has been to my house and met my dogs. You can remove the cover that holds the wheels in place on most plastic diesels with a small flat screwdriver by gently prying this cover off. This will allow you to

remove the wheel sets and take them out to clean them. Polarity is not an issue with plastic diesels. Again, using the same screwdriver as well as smooth jaw pliers or tweezers, you can remove dust dirt, and lint. This will also give you access to the drive gears in that truck so that just a little lubrication can be applied if necessary.

If you have steam engines in brass or plastic then this plate can also be removed from the drivers. BUT you must be careful because you do not want the drivers to come out. On brass units they have small springs that will fly out while on plastic ones there will be wires attached to the plate that go to the pick-ups on the drivers. Also do not forget to clean the pilot truck, trailing truck, or ALL of the tender wheels.

Styrofoam Scenery

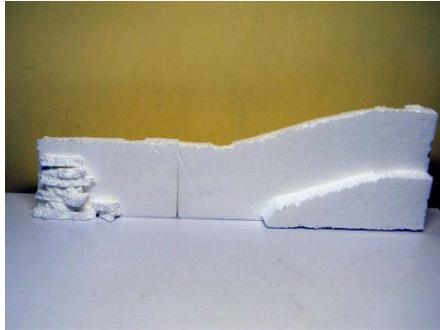
by Jack Stroker



Our railroading group has been working on a large "O" gauge three-rail layout that is an around the wall type. What I have started using is a different material for modeling the landscape against the walls. I have been using the coarse packing Styrofoam that is used in shipping items bought on-line.

The cost of the raw material (free) is certainly not prohibitive. I don't know if anyone else has used this material, but I am aware that many people have used the fine insulation type Styrofoam. I wrote this up for others to see and possibly improve the scheme.

For the "O" scale layout, two sizes of Styrofoam sheet were used. The first one was 2" thick and the other was $\frac{3}{4}$ " thick. I start by cutting and gluing



together long strips of the thicker Styrofoam sheets in the shape of the background that was to go against the wall. Once the background shape was completed, I began to add the rock out-cropping that would appear once the cut for the rail line had been made. Breaking off handfuls of the thinner Styrofoam sheets made these pieces. These were then glued to the first piece with the rough edge out. They were then stacked and glued along the face of the background sheet forming the rock cut that is desired.

I found that Liquid Nails seemed to work best for me. Thinned white glue has a tendency to run right through the Styrofoam. Styrofoam is somewhat messy stuff to work with and the static electricity with the scraps makes clean

up difficult. Vacuuming seems work best.

When the section of background was formed with the out-cropping and shape completed, it was time to begin the painting of the scene. I used some leftover exterior white latex paint with which I covered the entire section. I think any light colored latex would make a good base coat. After the base coat is dry, I next went over the rock areas with washes of tan and raw



using the thin-shell plaster approach to make a hillside and this method adds variety to the backdrop scenery.

There was another use that we found for this packing material. We had a need a wall that ran next to an elevated track for quite a distance. I tried a test using 1" x 1/2" blocks. I scribed the styrofoam with a hobby knife and then washed with a thin coat of

umber acrylic paint to high light the rocks and show the weathering of them.

This method can be combined with other scenic making methods. We have a section that is done



raw umber acrylic paint and you can see the result looks like a block wall.

This was a way for us to add some background scenery with material that would have normally just been waste. We had fun with this and we would be interested to see how others can improve on these methods.



Gateway's Fall Model Contest and Holiday Party

by Phil Bonzon

Photos by Richard Schumacher

This year we combined the Holiday party and the Fall Model Contest into one event on the evening of November 19, 2012 at Trinity Church. Our annual Fall Train Show was canceled because the venue was not available, so we added the model contest to the Holiday dinner party as an added attraction. The dinner was great and Bill Linson gave an interesting and entertaining presentation on his western travels.

The contest was judged by popular vote and there were 24 model and photo entries, plus three entries in the display only category. Since John Carty, Contest Manager, was not able to attend, Phil Bonzon MMR stepped forward and lead the way with assistance from Tim Stout and Hank Kraichely. There were some very nice models entered making the voting difficult. Phil Bonzon showed his three 2012 NMRA National Contest winning steam engines in the Display category.

The following are the contest results:

Steam Locomotives **1st Place** Phil Bonzon MMR B&O EM-1 #7629



Diesel Locomotives

1st Place Dave Roeder MMR
50T Plymouth VP #1

2nd Place Chris Oestreich
AC-44-9 Amtrak



3rd Place Phil Bonzon MMR

B&O S-1

#225

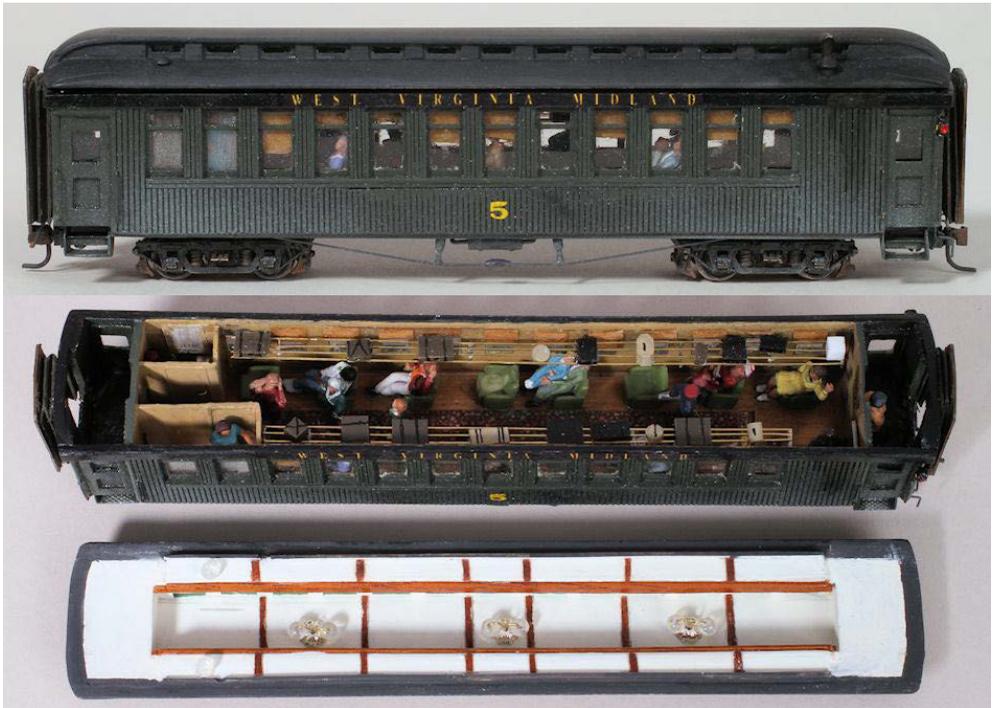


Passenger Cars

1st Place Phil

Bonzon MMR WVM

Parlor #5



2nd Place

Phil
Bonzon
MMR
WVM



Combine #2

8

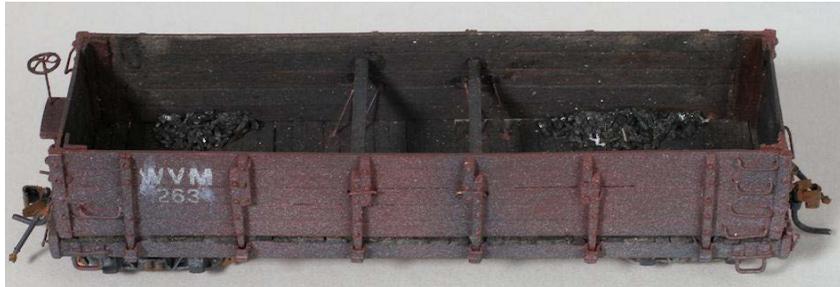


3rd Place
 Gregor Moe
 MP-1000

Freight Cars

1st Place

Phil Bonzon MMR
 WVM Gondola #263



2nd Place Dave Roeder MMR
 TCC #521





3rd Place Gregor Moe
CICX 800332

Caboose

1st Place Dave Roeder
MMR
BN 10991



2nd Place Dave Roeder
MMR BN 10928



On-Line Structures

1st Place tie Jon Marx

NKP/Deer Creek Trestle



1st Place Tie Randy Meyer MMR Stone Station



2nd Place Jon Marx Timber Tunnel Liner



Diorama

1st Place Bob Lenz
Lumber Company





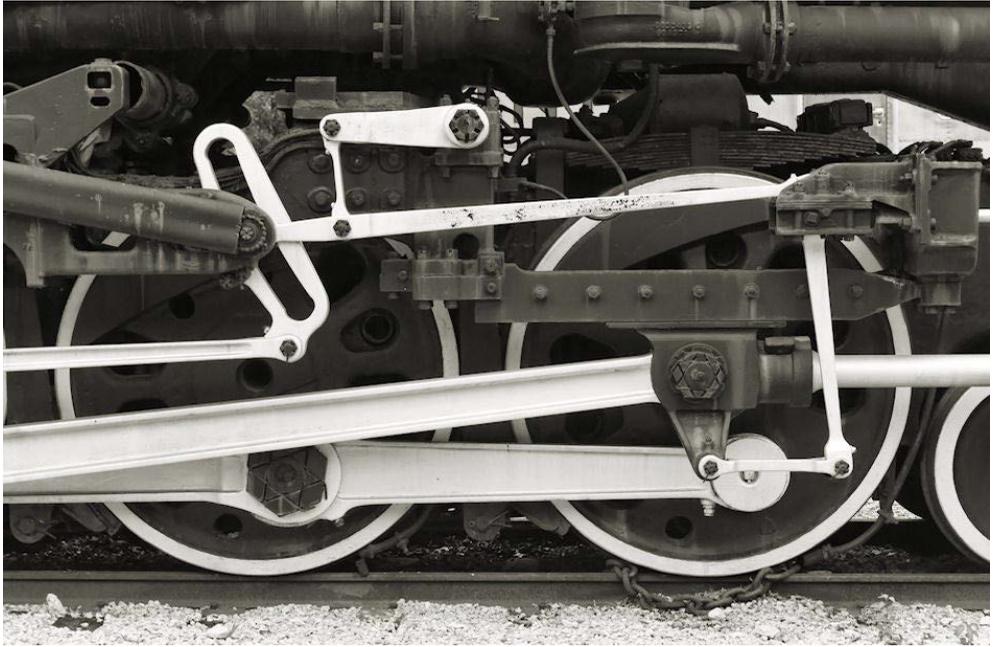
Model Photos

1st Place Richard Schumacher RI Ready Track



2nd Place Richard Schumacher UP N-scale





It was satisfying to see the entries of Jon Max and Bob Lenz, who are not ordinarily active in our model contests. Also after the contest Jon Marx's and Gregor Moe's models were AP merit judged with the models exceeding the AP Merit requirements. Overall, it was a successful Holiday dinner party and model contest.

Stories From a Railfan's Wife

by Brenda Stout

Tim and I could barely stay awake as we drove home from Springfield through the snow storm Friday night. But we made it home by 10:30, guess we're getting old. I sleepily went out to the barn to feed my horse while Tim unloaded the car. As I trudged back to the house, I heard a great commotion near the railroad tracks. When I realized what was happening, I suddenly wasn't sleepy any longer. I hurried inside and told Tim to grab a



tow rope and scrape the snow off the old pickup while I called the railroad. (I happen have Union Pacific's direct line in my address book, since I call them whenever the signals malfunction). I breathlessly told the agent that some kids were playing in the snow and had

their vehicle stuck on the tracks. The agent calmly told me he would halt rail traffic. Visions of dollar bills flashed through my mind. Seems a kid had just



bought an old Ford Ranger and wanted to test it out in the snow with his buddies. He didn't have a license, title, or insurance on it yet. Now the truck, with four flat tires, was wedged between the rails of the Union Pacific/Burlington Northern switch. As my husband and neighbor worked to pull the truck off the tracks, the policeman just shook his head in disgust. We learned several things; Ford Rangers weigh more than you think, but five guys can lift the back end, ballast covered with snow doesn't have good traction, the rails are taller than a Ford Ranger's undercarriage, and shorting the rails with the undercarriage of a vehicle really does

make the signals turn red. 3 ½ hours later, snug in our bed, we finally heard the sweet sound of a train passing by.

A few years ago my husband was going through a mid-life crisis. He was acting like a kid again. He talked about buying a corvette. I encouraged him to attend NMRA meetings instead. He came home from the first meeting talking about all the interesting people he met. Before long, he was going to multiple meetings and he joined a local train club. He was gone two or three times a week. Well, he could be doing something far more dangerous than playing with trains, and I was pretty sure he wouldn't meet another woman at a train meeting.

Over the last few years we have met a lot of wonderful railroad people, people who give their time to help their fellows. We've had help with taking pictures, building the new layout, troubleshooting a broken line and installing engine upgrades. Superintendent is going to take a lot of Tim's time, but he will enjoy it and ultimately get more back than he puts in. For those of you who read the RPO, and think about attending a meeting sometime, now is the time. One thing I have learned about life and model railroading, you get out of it what you put into it.

Gateway Division Report for January 2013

MCoR BOD Meeting December 19, 2012

I. General Comments:

The Division continues to meet monthly on a rotating basis between the VFW Hall in O'Fallon, IL and Trinity Church in Chesterfield, MO. The average monthly attendance was 27 for July thru Dec. 2012, showing a slight decrease and ranges from 17 to 40. 17 or 18 attended the O'Fallon meetings with meetings on the Missouri side drawing the larger attendance ranging from 32 to 40. Most of the members that attend the O'Fallon meetings also attend the Missouri meetings. Meeting announcements are communicated by postcard to members who are

current with their annual \$5 subscription fees or via e-mail to members who prefer this method of communication. Meeting info is also posted on the Gateway Division website which is www.gatewaynmra.org. Meeting and website updates are available through our RSS feed at <http://feeds.gatewaynmra.org/GatewayNMRA>.

- II. Division Monthly Meetings/Clinics/Events: July through December 2012
- July: Trinity, Rich Vellich discussed the “St. Louis Terminal Railroad”
- August: O’Fallon, IL. - Jimmy Ables presented “Videography, Photography and You Tube”
- September: Trinity – The DPM plastic kits that were distributed at the May meeting were brought back for judging by the membership. The contest was divided into “Craftsman” (past winners) and “Novice.” “Novice” 1st Place – John Carty, 2nd Place – Ray Jones and “Craftsman” 1st Place – Phil Bonzon MMR, 2nd Place – Gregor Moe. Gift cards to Mark Twain hobby shop were given as prizes.
- Another successful joint picnic with NRHS was held in September at the “St. Louis Museum of Transportation”.
- October: O’Fallon, IL. – Brian Post explained model railroad operations using the computer program “Rail OP” and how he uses it on his layout.
- November: Trinity – Annual Holiday dinner party and Fall Model Contest for members. Our annual Fall Meet Train Show was not held this November because the venue was not available.
- December: O’Fallon, IL. – “Bring it and Brag” and a “Swap Meet” with members bringing their projects and explaining how they built them.

- III. AP Activity:
- Phil Bonzon MMR, Gateway AP Chairman, submitted Author AP Certificates for members Bob Johnson and Jon Marx, also for Jon Marx two Structures AP merit awards and Gregor Moe two Car AP merit awards. With Gregor’s two Car AP merit awards, he has completed the requirements for his Master Builder Car Certificate. Phil is working with Jon and Gregor on their AP Certificates. Phil Bonzon’s AP Official Certificate was submitted.

- IV. Membership Activity:
- Without the monthly membership reports from MCoR, it is impossible to track new membership activity. Therefore, promoting membership in the NMRA becomes a waste of time and money, when you do not have a means of tracking the results or welcoming new members. If you cannot welcome a new member in a timely fashion, you alienate that person towards the NMRA, which is the opposite of what you want. As a result, we have ceased attending train shows with our switching layout / booth and having recruiting posters in the local hobby shops.

V. John Carty accepted the position of RPO editor at the beginning of 2012 from the interim editor Carolyn Kraichely and has done a fine job with it. John needs the support of the membership with articles and ideas.

VI. The Gateway Division website, managed by Richard Schumacher, continues to be very busy with a lot of website visits.

VII. 2012 NMRA CONVENTION in ST. LOUIS:

In June 2012 the Gateway Division hosted a successful convention for the Mid-Continent Region with 192 people attending (153 members and 39 non-members / guests) and 97 paid to attend the banquet at the "Museum of Transportation." The convention showed a net profit of \$3,806.75, which is to be split with MCoR. The Co-chairmen Hank Kraichely and Bob Amsler, along with the rest of the committee, did a fine job of organizing the convention.

VIII. Officers/Department Chairs for 2013:

Superintendent: Tim Stout
Assistant Superintendent: Phil Bonzon MMR
Division Director: Hank Kraichely
Paymaster: Rich Velten
Clerk/Secretary: Jimmy Ables
Membership Chairman: Jimmy Ables
Monthly E-mail Notice Manager: Jimmy Ables
AP Chairmen: Phil Bonzon MMR
RPO Editor: John Carty
Gateway Website Manager: Richard Schumacher

IX. Death of members since the June 2012 report: I am happy to report that we have not had any members pass away since our last report.

A special thank you is due our outgoing officers for their service to Gateway and the NMRA:

Hank Kraichely: Former Superintendent
Bill Linson: Former Assistant Superintendent
Don Ayres: Former Clerk
Dave Lyon: Former Paymaster
Phil Bonzon MMR: Former Director

Finally, if we can receive membership reports, we will actively promote membership in the NMRA and we will continue to provide interesting clinics and activities to retain members.

Report submitted jointly by:

Phil Bonzon MMR – 2009-2012 Gateway Division Director

Hank Kraichely- Gateway Division Director

Putting on the Rex

by John Carty

Photos by the author

Having obtained the kits needed for the industries on my layout, I have started constructing off line structures as well. Rather than randomly placing various businesses, I made a list of typical businesses you find in the average city, as well as establishments which graced the city of Belleville, Illinois. I try to match each structure I build to the look I am trying to achieve; hence the aforementioned list of businesses.

At a swap meet I purchased “Uncle Al’s” United Grocery produced by Pola and sold by International Hobby Corp. This kit features two structures: the grocer and an auto repair shop. The walls are modular, allowing for easy kit bashing. I decided to make the auto shop into a restaurant and the grocery store into a movie theater.

The first step in project like this is research. I already pictured the basic look I desired, but needed to fill out details of the theater. I entered “movie theaters 1955” into Google and hit



images. I selected a half dozen similar to my project and pasted them into a Word document. One thing I noticed is that movie theaters once sported a great deal of architectural detail. I also noticed that posters promoting upcoming films adorned the exterior of the theaters. The marques may or may not advertise both features showing. In addition I photographed the Lincoln Theater in Belleville. While I am not modeling the Lincoln specifically, it also served patrons during the era I model.

Having worked at the Lincoln while in high school, I learned a great deal of its history as well as the movie business. The building is huge in modeling terms: eighty feet wide, a hundred and twenty feet deep, and six stories tall. Mr. Wright, the owner, once worked for the Bloomer Amusement Company and told me about the history of movie theaters in general as well as in Belleville in particular. Bloomer’s first theater was

the Rex, which is the name I chose for my model. From a picture I saw years ago, the Rex present a much more manageable prototype to model being only a couple of stories tall as well as a far more modest foot print than the Lincoln.

Both the Lincoln and the Rex, like most early theaters, lacked concession counters when they were constructed. The bathrooms were in the basement. Tickets were purchased at a window: Outside the entrance of the Lincoln, inside at the Rex. Both sported balconies. The main seating galleries sloped gently down below street level. Windows adorned the upper reaches of the walls covered by heavy curtains and eventually bricked over. Both boasted stages, which opened at street level for loading and unloading of properties, costumes, and supplies. The curtains at the Lincoln were drawn straight up into an additional loft while those at the Rex were gathered up.

The next area of research concerned movie posters. I visited Wikipedia and searched for a list of films released in 1955. I selected several from the list and visited their entries in Wikipedia. A picture of the original posters appeared with the entry. I copied a sampling into another Word document. I resized the posters to HO scale. I also created lettering for the marquee announcing the feature film: Alfred Hitchcock's "To Catch a Thief."

For the restaurant, I asked my father for names of restaurants he remembered in the area during the fifties.

To my surprise he related how his best man almost opened a restaurant in Belleville. Apparently the property Luigi looked at could support the expanded parking lot he required for his pizzeria. To those from the Florissant, Missouri area, this is the same Luigi who operated a restaurant



there for years.

Next I tackled construction. The first change I made was to swap one of the solid side walls of the repair shop for one of the side walls with window openings. I assembled both structures, putting the remaining wall sporting window openings on the second story of the theater. I

constructed a lean-to from another kit to the back of the restaurant to serve as the kitchen, substituting a metal roof from Evergreen. I added a canopy to the front of the theater using Evergreen 0.060" sheet cut six feet deep and the width of the building and tapering in



two feet on each end at the front. I filed the front corners to round them and then added 0.125" by 0.002" styrene to the edge of the canopy and extending it the length of the side walls. Not only did this add a nice architectural detail, but the trim also greatly strengthened the connection between the building and canopy. I added pieces of 0.020" square styrene to the top and bottom of this trim as well as a piece of 0.015x0.020" styrene down the middle.

To the top of front of the theater, I added a piece of brickwork from the "Dan's Produce Market" kit sold by IHC. I also added roof vents to each building as well as a chimney scavenged from a Design Preservation Models kit. I assembled the fire escape separately to make painting and detailing easier. Left over signs from Cornerstone series kits by Walther's provided the signage required by a movie theater. The sign provided for Uncle Al's Grocery was selected to serve the restaurant.

I sprayed the theater fire red and the restaurant pumpkin orange. I divided the windows, bill boards, and doors, spray painting them along with the lean-to to complement the colors of the brick of each of the structures: light blue and grey respectively. I painted the trim of each structure with acrylic craft paints. I also detailed the brick work of the theater using a 10/0 brush. The trim, the underside of the canopy, chimney, roof, and roof vents also received craft paint. Tuck pointing consisted of washes of acrylic craft paint thinned with alcohol. Since movie theaters received air conditioning early, I added a Walther's cornerstone air conditioner to the roof of the theater supporting it with a pair of six by six timbers painted black to resemble the tar typically of such installations. The air conditioner itself

received a coat of jade spray paint with a black wash applied to the grills.

The signs for the theater gained white faces with blue trim, while the sign for the restaurant received red with green trim. I lettered all signs using Microscale decals, using gold for the theater and white for the restaurant. After installing the windows, glazing, and signs, less the marque lettering, I weathered the building with acrylic/alcohol washes. I added the posters and signage last since these



would not show much weathering. I added curtains, draperies, and blinds to the windows to hide the empty interiors. The blinds on the restaurant came with Uncle Al's while I selected the curtains and draperies from on line listings by J.C. Penney's.

Now all I have to do is install my new establishments and my layout's population can enjoy dinner and a movie.

Division Minutes

by Don Ayres

Meeting Minutes for October 15, 2012

Hank Kraichely, Superintendent,
hkraichely@sbcglobal.net

Bill Linson, Assistant Superintendent

Phil Bonzon, MMR, MCoR Director

Don Ayres, Clerk, ayresd1@charter.net

Dave Lyon, Paymaster

Ron Gawedzinski, Activity Coordinator

CLINIC - Brian Post presented a demonstration and discussion on RailOp software. RailOp is used to build schedules and switch list.

BUSINESS MEETING

Superintendent, Hank Kraichely, called the meeting to order at 8:34 PM. There were 12 members were present and 1 guest, Bryan Halwachs. Two other "guests" had recently joined!

Minutes of the Previous Month's Meeting

Don Ayres was absent due to a death in the family thus the September minutes were not available. Minutes will be presented at the December 2012 meeting. Minutes are published in our quarterly publication, the RPO.

Treasures Report

Dave Lyon was not in attendance; Jim Anderson presented the Treasures report in his place. Phil Bonzon asked about the final total for the Regional Convention. Hank indicated we are still waiting on the final accounting from Gary Gross. Jim Anderson reported the \$300 expenditure was for the annual Gateway Division/National Railroad Historical Society picnic. \$150 was for food and drinks and \$150 was for donations to three organizations that provide support to the event. The report was approved.

Merchandise Report

Tim reported we have 30 packages of HO wheel sets in stock. He also stated we have HO standards gauge, and he ordered HOn3, and On3 gauges.

RPO Report

Hank Kraichely asked Jim Ables to contact John Carty regarding publication of the Fall 2012 RPO and distribution of ballots for annual elections.

Directors Report

Phil Bonzon reported the east Iowa Division is having an operating session in April 2013 and distributed flyers. Flyers were also distributed by email.

Achievement Program (AP) Report

Phil Bonzon reported he would have an author's certificate for Bob Johnson at the next meeting and possibly a certificate for Jon

Marx. Gregor Moe has several projects to be judged.

Monthly Meeting Clinician Report

Bill Linson reported he would provide a short presentation on his trip across the southwest as part of the annual holiday party. The clinic for the December meeting will be bring it and brag.

Old Business

Hank reported on the annual Gateway Division/National Railroad Historical Society Picnic. By all reports the picnic was great and everyone had a good time. As usual Ron Gawedzinski did an outstanding job putting the event together. The Division donated \$50 each to the Trolley Car Association, Museum of Transport, and snow cone vendor. The Trolley Car Association sent a letter of thanks for the donation and indicated the funds would be applied against restoration projects. CLOSED

Hank announced ballots for annual election of officers will be distributed with the Fall RPO. OPEN

New Business

No new business.

Announcements

Hank reminded everyone that the Fall meet had to be cancelled for this year due to non availability of the facility.

Phil Bonzon reported the model contest normally held at the fall meet is being moved to the Holiday Party in November. The contest will be popular vote only.

John Golding and Lonnie Bathurst from the Prototype Modelers Association presented a check for \$100 to the Division as thanks for support of the Railroad Prototype Modelers meet.

Brian Post announced the World Greatest Hobby show is coming back to town. More to follow.

50/50

Sixteen dollars was collected and the prize was eight dollars. Phil Bonzon won.

Jim Anderson won the Mark Twain Hobby gift card.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:05 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jimmy Ables, filling in for Don Ayres, Gateway
Division Clerk

Meeting Minutes for September 17, 2012

Hank Kraichely, Superintendent,
hkraichely@sbcglobal.net

Bill Linson, Assistant Superintendent

Phil Bonzon, MMR, MCoR Director

Don Ayres, Clerk, ayresd1@charter.net

Dave Lyon, Paymaster

Ron Gawedzinski, Activity Coordinator

CLINIC – This month, many of us brought our DPM kits in for popular vote judging. (In May, an identical structure kit, with additional parts, was passed out to all attending members as a member benefit.) In non-expert class, John Carty took first place for his kitbash, while Ray Jones' structure placed second. In expert class, Phil Bonzon's flat won first prize, with Gregor Moe winning second. Congratulations to all who participated by completing their kit.

BUSINESS MEETING –

The Superintendent called the business meeting to order at 7:46 PM. There were 29 members present.

Minutes of the Previous Month's Meeting

The minutes of the August meeting were APPROVED. Approved minutes are published in our quarterly publication, the RPO.

Paymasters Report

Dave contrasted the \$34 of income, and the \$3727 in expenditures that occurred since we last met. Hank pointed out that this is mostly due to the hotel being paid off from the convention. We are actually a little ahead on the entire convention. APPROVED as read.

Merchandise Report

Tim was absent, but Hank had the wheelsets and track gauges available.

RPO Report

Some members recently received an older RPO via e-mail. This has been corrected.

Directors Report

Phil was present, but had nothing to report.

Achievement Program (AP) Report

Waiting for Bob Johnson's certificate to be delivered from National.

Monthly Meeting Clinician Report

Bill said that Brian Post will present a clinic next month on Rail-Op.

November will be the annual Holiday Party

December – "bring it and brag"

Old Business

2012 MCoR Convention: Dave mentioned during his report that he thought the convention was financially complete. Will wait for Gary Gross to confirm. OPEN, until final financial closeout.

The Fall Meet has been cancelled due to non-availability of the church on our preferred weekend. CLOSED

Joint Picnic: Ron declared the picnic a success. 97 people from both groups attended. He will put together a survey to help him determine how to proceed next year. Ron received a nice round of applause for his efforts as chairman! CLOSED

Election of Officers – So far, Tim Stout has already agreed to run for Superintendent, Phil Bonzon will run for Assistant Superintendent, and Jimmy Ables will run for Clerk. Dave Lyon will continue as Paymaster if necessary, but is really hoping for another candidate to step forward. OPEN

New Business

No new business.

Announcements

Hank offered all of the excess DPM parts from the model building contest to the membership.

Ron again pitched Ron an NRHS event that we are invited to: A presentation at the Cliff Cave Library given by Gregory Ames, retired curator of the Barriger Library, will speak on railroad books, Trains and Children's Literature for Adults. Adults and children welcome. Thursday, Sept 27, 7:00 PM.

50/50 –

Forty-eight was collected, and Jimmy Ables won the drawing and took home \$24. The

treasury was enriched by \$24. Mark Schumann won the Mark Twain Hobbies' gift card.

Adjournment

Jimmy Ables made a MOTION to adjourn at 8:02 PM. SECONDED by Gregor Moe. MOTION PASSED.

Respectfully Submitted,

Don Ayres, Gateway Division Clerk

Timetable of Events

Do you know of an event of interest to other Gateway Division members? Send the information to the editor so it can be listed in future *RPOs* and on the www.gatewaynmra.org website.

NMRA Divisions or St. Louis area clubs may have their event listed here by sending a description of the event, in the format shown here, to the Editor (johnpcarty@hotmail.com).

Sat., February 2, 2013

The Warrior Express, 10 a.m. – 3 p.m., Fox High School, Arnold, MO.

Mon., February 18, 2013

Gateway Division Meeting, VFW Hall, O'Fallon, IL, 7 p.m. Dave Roeder MMR will present how he plans and constructs his paper buildings.

Sat., March 2, 2013

Route 66 Model Train Show, 10 a.m. – 3 p.m., Pacific Eagles Hall, Pacific, MO.

Sat., March 9, 2013

Boeing Employees' Railroad Club Swap Meet, 10 a.m. – 3 p.m., Greensfelder Recreation Complex at Queeny Park, St. Louis, MO. Admission: \$3, Children under 12 free.

Sun., March 17, 2013

Springfield Model Railroad Club's Train Fair, 10 a.m. – 3 p.m., Orr Building, Illinois State Fair Grounds, Springfield, IL. \$5 after 10 a.m. (\$10 at 9 a.m.)

Mon., March 18, 2013

Gateway Division Meeting, Trinity Lutheran Church, W. St. Louis County, 7 p.m. Dale Jenkins, President of the Illinois Traction Society, will present a clinic on the history and operations of the Illinois terminal Railroad.

Fri., Sat. & Sun., April 5, 6 & 7, 2013

Eastern Iowa Division Operation Session Weekend, registration required. Information available at <https://sites.google.com/site/eid2013op/sessionweekend/home>.

Sat., April 6, 2013

2013 Benefit Model Train Show & Swap Meet, 10 a.m. – 3 p.m., St. Paul United Church of Christ, Belleville, IL. Admission: \$3, Children under 12 free.

Mon., April 15, 2013

Gateway Division Meeting, VFW Hall, O'Fallon, IL, 7 p.m. Pete Smith MMR will present his techniques for finishing wood structures.

Sat. & Sun., July 27 & 28, 2013

Great Train Expo, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m., Belle-Clair Fairgrounds, Belleville, Illinois. Admission: \$7, 12 and under free with an adult.

Sat., September 7, 2013

Boeing Employees' Railroad Club Swap Meet, 10 a.m. – 3 p.m., Greensfelder Recreation Complex at Queeny Park, St. Louis, MO. Admission: \$3, Children under 12 free.

Sat., November 2, 2013

Gateway Division Fall Meet, 9:00
a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Trinity Lutheran
Church, W. St. Louis County.

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 \$66 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

To join, visit our website and complete the form at <http://gatewaynmra.org/membership.htm>

Division Officers

Superintendent

Timothy (Tim) A. Stout

Assistant Superintendent

Philip (Phil) G. Bonzon MMR #427

Clerk (Secretary)

Jimmy D. Ables

Paymaster (Treasurer)

Richard (Rich) M. Velten (Marilyn)

Division Director

Henry (Hank) W. Kraichely

