

RPO

Fall 1998: Volume 6, No. 3

The *RPO* is the official publication of the Gateway Division of the Mid-Continent Region (MCoR) of the National Model Railroad Association (NMRA)

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Advertising of interest to our membership is accepted for publication in the *RPO*. Contact the Editor or Treasurer for current rates and artwork size information. Please send submissions, suggestions, letters, and address corrections to:

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Articles may be submitted in any format (handwritten, typed or plain unformatted text on disk - either 3.5" or 5.25"), photo submissions are currently limited to 35mm slides or 35mm negatives (color or B&W). Articles may be sent by e-mail to prmetzler@msn.com

Visit the Gateway Division on the Internet at

<http://home.stlnet.com/~rlake>

Superintendent's Desk

by Hank Kraichely

I would like to begin this column with a special thank you to Venita Lake who is retiring as the *RPO* Editor. I think you will agree with me that she has done a great job in producing a very interesting publication for our Division.

Communications are critical to the success of any organization and we should all be proud of our newsletter!

I would also like to thank Paul Metzler for assuming responsibility for this publication, Paul you have big shoes to fill but I know you are up to the task!

I would also thank all the people that made the Fall Meet a success. Jim Anderson, John Schindler and their crew did an outstanding job! I saw a number of people who worked both Saturday and Sunday. It is this kind of dedication that makes our Division not only successful but an organization that a model railroader wants to be a part of. I recommend that each of you consider working on next year's meet. It is a great opportunity to get to know your fellow Division member and have a great time in the process.

I began this year with a column suggesting that each of you consider becoming active in the Division. There are a number of opportunities to do this including helping on the construction of the Division Layout each year. You can also sell chances at one of the many shows it is a lot of fun and a good way to get to know other members of the Division.

One of the most frequently heard comments around the country is that the various NMRA groups are a click, a closed group. I will guarantee you that

if you ask to be involved your help will be welcomed. Please make a new years resolution to become active and get to know some great people.

Thank you for all your support and let's have a great 1999!

Gateway 2001 Update

*Submitted by Jim Anderson,
Registration Chairman*

The Eagle Club: We are at 183 registrants as of 11/12 and will close out this segment at 201. The cost is \$125 and you get the following:

- full convention registration
- special Eagle Club patch
- Eagle Club pin
- limited edition coffee mug
- \$40 credit toward tours

The Rocket Club: We have 6 RC registrants. We will run this segment until 12/31/00. The cost is \$100.00 and includes the following:

- full convention registration
- \$20 credit toward tours
- preferred tour selection (after *Eagle Club*)

If anyone is interested in either program, but especially the *Eagle Club*, contact Jim Anderson, Registration Chairman. *Eagle Club* memberships are only available until the total is reached. Jim's address, phone number, etc. is in the *RPO* membership directory. You can contact Jim at **andersjd@swbell.net**. Finally, if you're interested, there's more info on the convention home page.

On the Cover

"Oh, the weather outside if frightful, but the railfanning is so delightful". Randy Domineck's classic Missouri Pacific definitely has someplace to go, and doesn't mind the snow. This color prototype slide won first place at the Gateway Division 1999 Fall Meet.

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Daniel Osborn (618) 345-4209

Dispatcher's Desk

by Bob Amsler

I was reading some interesting letters that discussed the impact of real problems on a layout owner's operations. The general thread of the discussion focused on how the prototype railroad would respond to a similar event. What havoc would this unleash on the scheduled trains, the connections, and the yardmasters? All of this was interesting and I thought I would tell you about some of these "disasters."

A common event on any model railroad occurs when a train jumps the track. Instantly a car or cars leave the right of way and careen onto private property alongside the tracks. If this happened to the prototype, the railroad would immediately contact the local emergency services in case there was any dangerous materials involved. In the steam era a wreck train would be immediately called and dispatched to the scene of the accident. In modern times cranes and equipment are dispatched by road to the scene of the accident. The railroad may own the equipment or a local contractor may own the equipment.

The railroad then tries to clean the mess up. The first priority is securing hazardous materials. The second priority is to limit damages. If there are more than one track, the railroad will try to get the adjacent track clear as soon as possible so some freight can be moved. When this is completed, the cars are righted and placed on the track, or a flat car, for transport to the repair shop.

When we have a derailment, what do we do? Could we send out the

wrecker? Can we call on a local crew to clean up the mess? How can we simulate this? How about pulling the track out of service? If any of the adjacent tracks are blocked pull them out of service too. Pull the tracks out of service for a realistic amount of time. (Dare I say make the engineer and conductor take a drug test?) You can even perform an investigation. After all, the owner will want to know why that train derailed.

What about a car with a truck that keeps causing the car to leave the rails or wobble excessively. Why not set it out at the next siding and report it to the dispatcher and yardmaster as in need of repair? That is what the prototype will do if a car is dangerous or has a hot box. If the car is lame, put it in a siding and let the next local pick it up. Give the car card to the yardmaster and let him know where the car is. (This is another good reason to name everything on your railroad.) This will also allow the owner of the layout to fix the car between operating sessions. The car can then be placed back on the siding and picked up by the local and brought back to the yard. Once it is in the yard, it can be placed on the RIP (Repair in Place) tracks. Leave the car there for a session and then route the car to its original destination.

What do you do when the car the train pulls into the yard does not have a car card? Do like the prototype — put the car on a special track and have the yardmaster put out the word that a waybill is needed for a car. The prototype has yard clerks who would immediately call the central billing and clerk office to determine where the car was to go, what it carried, and its routing. A second waybill is then generated and placed in the car card.

Then the car can be switched into the appropriate train.

Have a coupler come off during an operating session. The prototype carries knuckles but no drawbars. Treat the broken coupler like a broken drawbar on a car. Take the car out of the train, place it in a siding and give the paperwork to the yardmaster. He can leave the car there for the layout owner to repair and replace back at the siding. The yardmaster can treat the

car just as he did the car with the hotbox described above.

If it breaks on the layout or causes problems, treat the problem like the prototype. This should work just fine as long as you have kept up on maintenance of your railroad and cars. If not, it could be a call to repair these items and put the railroad in top operating condition.

Until the next time, may all the signals you see be green over red!

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YOUR TRAIN HEADQUARTERS

Division Meeting Minutes for August 17, 1998

Submitted by Richard Lake, acting Clerk

7:05 pm Clinic presentation by Richard Lake, Randy Meyer, Richard Schumacher.

Presentation was on the selection of the track plan for the next project railroad (Gateway Central VI). Discussion included design modifications and donations from manufacturers contacted at the National Convention. A sign up sheet for three scheduled work sessions was distributed with great results.

8:10 pm Hank Kraichely called the business meeting to order. Minutes:

John Hardy moved to approve the minutes for the May meeting. Dan Osborn Second. Approved.

Treasurer's Report: John Hardy moved to accept the report. Gregor Moe second. Approved.

2001 Convention: John Hardy reported 167 Eagle Club members with many of those signing up at the National Convention in Kansas City.

1998 Fall Meet: John Schindler announced the next planning meeting. August 22, at 2 pm at his house. Chris Ties requested 4 to 5 volunteers to take on responsibility for distributing flyers promoting the event to area hobby shops.

Mid-Continent Region Director's Report: Richard Schumacher reported few directors were in attendance at the meeting in Kansas City. He announced that the commemorative cars for Larry Long are now available for purchase. Also announced that the Region Board had approved creation of a memorial award honoring Larry.

Utah Belt Cars: Ken Thompson reported that approximately half of the total number has been sold with good sales in Kansas City. Eric Brooman is very pleased with result. Ken stressed the importance of pushing sales to move the balance of the cars.

KC Silent Auction: Ken Thompson expressed his thanks to all of the division members and their family members who put in so many hours in order to make the Kansas City silent auction happen. Kansas City group has also acknowledged how important our contribution was to the success of the auction.

Hank Kraichely shared a letter from the Museum of Transportation thanking us for our participation in the Transportation Celebration Days.

New Business

Division Software Purchase: John Schindler brought up the number of different pieces of division "business" being done by different members and using different software programs. John Schindler moved that Richard Schumacher investigate computer software and associated costs to bring all division computing needs into on coordinated consistent software package. John Hardy second. Approved.

AP Awards: Pete Sanborn handed out AP awards to the following Division members:

Golden Spike - Ken Thompson, John Schindler
Master Builder, Motive Power - John Lee
Association Official - Richard Schumacher

Hank Kraichely led a discussion of the issues which we must consider in determining whether to continue the 2 day fall meet as it has been for the past two years. This issue will be discussed further at the next meeting.

Meeting Adjourned at 9:25 pm.

Division Meeting Minutes for September 21, 1998

Submitted by Ron Gawedzinski, Clerk

7-8:00 pm Clinic work took place on the Museum of Transport's HO model railroad layout.

8:10 pm Hank Kraichely called the meeting to order. Minutes: Bob Amsler moved that the minutes for the August 1998 meeting be approved. John Hardy second. Approved.

Treasurer's Report: John Schindler unable to attend. The closing balance at 8/31/98 was \$8,562.00. Bob Amsler moved the August report be approved. John Hardy second. Approved. Money is still to come from the Kansas City NMRA National Convention Company Store for the sale of Division *Utah Belt* custom cars.

Gateway 2001 Committee: Bob Amsler stated the first post-Kansas City Convention meeting was held on September 14. Discussion took place on what worked and what did not work at Kansas City.

Fall Meet/Train Show Coordinating Committee: The Division's annual train show will be held on the weekend of October 17-18, 1998, at the Gateway Convention Center in Collinsville, IL.

Old Business:

Custom Painted Car Sales: Ken Thompson reported that 137 *Utah Belt* cars have been sold to date, with 3 cars given as gifts. He is presently

awaiting receipt of money for the sale of 66 cars from the Kansas City NMRA National Convention Company Store.

New Business:

1999 Project Railroad: Richard Lake reported the benchwork is complete. The next work session will be on September 26 at the home of Rich Schumacher.

Fall Meet/Train Show 1999 and Beyond: Hank Kraichley followed up on discussion of the issue of whether to continue the two day meet at the Gateway Convention Center. Bob Amsler moved that the Division continue the two day show at the Collinsville Convention Center in 1999. Jack Templeton second. Approved.

It was announced that the newest RPO was available.

Election for 1999: A nominating committee will be chaired by Ken Thompson. John Hardy will chair the election committee.

Family Days will be at the Museum of Transport on October 11, 1998, 9 am to 5 pm.

Club Reports: Columbia Model Railroaders train show in Columbia on October 4.

Meeting adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

Division Meeting Minutes for October 19, 1998

Submitted by Ron Gawedzinski, Clerk

7-8:00 pm **The Great Tree Creation Clinic** took place. Members participated in a hands-on clinic making numerous and varied types of trees for the 1999 Project Railroad.

8:14 pm Hank Kraichley called the meeting to order. Minutes: Bob Amsler moved that the minutes for the September 1998 meeting be approved. Randy Meyer second. Approved.

Treasurer's Report: John Schindler stated the closing balance at 9/30/98 was \$8,758.36. Bob Amsler moved the August report be approved. Steve Goaring second. Approved.

Visitors: Herb Brantley and Don Ayres.
WELCOME!

Fall Meet/Train Show Final Report: Jim Anderson and John Schindler gave a final report. A net gain of \$1,620 was earned. This was better than last year by about \$500. 1,314 people attended our two day meet. A great big thanks to everyone who worked at the show.

Gateway 2001 Committee: Bob Amsler stated that committee budgets are due to him by November 1. Everything else is going well.

Old Business:

Custom Painted Car Sales: Ken Thompson reported that the first run of cars, a total of 216, sold out and \$1,283.47 was earned. He requests making a second run of 216 cars of a MDC 50' double door box car with a different car number. The artwork is already done. Bob Amsler moved to make a second run of cars but leave it to the Board of Directors to possibly increase the total to 300. Jack Templeton second. Motion approved.

Final Results for Gateway Layout V: John Schindler reported that the layout was won by a lady for a five year old child whose birthday was to be in three days. Total sales were reported at a \$2,234.96 gain. Over 2,900 tickets were sold.

Work Sessions and Status of 1999 Project

Layout: Richard Lake stated the track work and the basic shape of the layout was completed. The next work session will be on Saturday, Oct. 24, 10 am, at home of Richard Schumacher, working on scenery, rock carvings, etc.

Fall Meet/Train Shows for 1999 and Beyond: Hank Kraichely said the dates for the 1999 Fall Meet and Train Show are October 16-17, 1999. He is looking for volunteer Chairmen for the various committees involved in the show. New promotional ideas are needed from the members. One item that needs attention is for more modular type layouts at the show, specifically layouts for kids to be attracted to, involving hands-on activities, animation, etc. This was a frequent comment made by parents attending the show this year. Connected with this is a potential spacing problem — should the additional layouts be placed in the smaller meeting rooms of the Convention Center and the clinics moved elsewhere in the Main Room, or should some other spacing method be used? We need to know how members feel about this.

Software For Division Use: Richard Schumacher followed up on the stated Division software standards needs for both the 2001 Committee involved with the National Convention and the business uses of the Division. An important factor is the need for consistency in applications. He has checked out several possibilities, with prices ranging from \$50 to \$210 a copy, with the license to be owned by the Division. The best option is Microsoft Office Professional, with a one-time license fee of \$50 and a biannual maintenance fee of \$50 per copy.

The Division can help support its non-profit organizational IRS status and enhance our

educational support of the community by establishing a modeling reference library. Robert Amsler moved we install a reference library at the Museum of Transport. Mike Barry second. Motion approved.

Family Days at the Museum of Transport: MOT was very pleased that the Division members got their model railroad running.

New Business:

Holiday Party: The third annual Holiday Party will take place on Monday, 11/16/98, 7 PM, at St. Clement Health Center. Please bring a dessert or snack item. Drinks will be provided by the Division.

Election for 1999: Candidates for the 1999 Election have been nominated: Superintendent, Hank Kraichely; Assistant Superintendent, Richard Lake; Treasurer, John Schindler; Clerk, Ron Gawedzinski; Gateway Division Director, Jim Anderson. Ballots will be mailed to each member shortly. Please vote for one candidate in each category or place a write-in candidate name on the ballot. Mail back to John Hardy to arrive no later than 12/14/98.

Need a Clinic Chairperson: Hank stated we needed someone to be a Clinic Chairperson for the monthly clinics held in conjunction with our monthly meetings.

AP Status: It was announced that Tom Troughton has officially become Master Model Railroader #277 of the NMRA. Congratulations Tom for a task well performed.

Metal Wheelsets Order: Kevin Hampton said he was putting a group order together for metal wheelsets; members should contact him.

Quincy Model Railroad Society: Division members have been invited back by the Society for an Operating session. The visit last year was very enjoyable. Date of visit will be Saturday, 12/5/98. Put your name on the list if interested.

Move Date of **Gateway Model Railroad Club Layout Tour:** Chris Thies suggested moving the date of the Clubs Layout Tour from the present Friday during the Annual Fall Meet/Train Show to a Friday during November, when Model Railroad Month is celebrated. He made this into a motion. Robert Amsler second. Motion approved.

Gateway Division WebSite: Richard Schumacher stated we need to relocate our present website from *PostNet* to a commercial website provider. Discussion followed. Robert Amsler moved that we move our website to a commercial provider with a new domain name. Randy Meyer second. Motion approved. We will follow up on a number of members who

suggested GatewayNMRA.org as the new domain name.

New RPO Chairperson: Venita Lake reported that the new RPO Editor is Paul Metzler. Please get all those articles in to Paul as soon as possible. A great big thanks for a job well done to Venita.

New Membership Chairperson: Roxy Metzler is the new Membership Chairperson.

Meeting adjourned at 9:12 p.m.

Division Clinics for December & January

by Richard Lake

The clinic for December, at the O'Fallon VFW Hall, will provide members an opportunity to try their hand at layout design. A layout scenario, with room size and limitations, along with a general list of givens and druthers will be provided and those attending will then break into teams and take a crack at designing a layout to fit the space and accomplish as many of the druthers as possible. Each team will then give a brief explanation explaining their design and the conditions that led to that design. A popular vote contest will be held of the designs presented. There is a possibility that a prize will be awarded to the winner(s).

The clinic for January, at the Museum of Transportation, will be on scenic backdrops. The present plan is to make use of the scenic divider being used on the Project Layout, Gateway Central VI, and demonstrate techniques for creating an effective scenery background.

Lonnie Boster Memorial Award

At the November meeting/holiday

gathering of the Gateway Division, John Hardy presented the Lonnie Boster Memorial Award to Larry Sayer. The following is an excerpt from that presentation.

Who is Lonnie Boster?

Well, Lonnie was the leader of a group of model railroaders that were from McDonnell Aircraft Company. They put on shows for many years in both Missouri and Illinois. He held the show meetings in his home. He stored all the files for the area shows in his basement. These shows were put on with no backing from the Region or anyone else. This was before the Region was formed. This group became known as "SLAMRR" or "The St. Louis Area Model Railroaders"

He was MCoR Director for many years. He was then elected MCoR Vice President and then MCoR President. All the time still putting on the train shows.

He served the St. Louis area with dedication and service for many years, holding the area together for future modelers to enjoy. His house was open to everyone. We all owe a great deal of gratitude to Lonnie.

What's a Boster?

Long unselfish service to the hobby, long dedication to the hobby, and a smile.

That's what a Boster should be.

So, tonight, Ladies and Gentlemen, as recipient of the first "Lonnie Boster Memorial Award", it is my deep honor to award the next "Boster" to Larry "TT" Sayer.

I consider this gentleman a long time friend, who has a quick wit and an infectious smile.

The man we honor tonight in many ways reminds me of Lonnie. Serving the hobby of model railroading in St. Louis for many years. First, starting the first train show in St. Louis (at Cross Keys Mall, in North St. Louis) in 1974 and helping to put on train shows in the St. Louis area to this day.

Larry had a wonderful layout in his basement. Not wanting to limit his scope of influence to just layout building, he decided to manufacture model railroading supplies in a scale many of us has never seen or has never worked with. Doing this out of his garage and basement.

He is also an accomplished machinist. He was formerly employed by McDonnell Douglas Aircraft — for how many years, Larry?

Since his retirement, he has offered his services freely to the Gateway Division and completed them in a timely manner.

Larry, in a recent phone call with Jerry Boster, Lonnie's wife (who resides in Houston), sends you her best wishes and she knows that Lonnie would second you being named for this award. Her only regret is that she could not be here to award it herself.

Thank you Larry for all your years service and dedication.

Mini-Contests Held at Division Meetings

Here are the categories for the monthly mini-contests so that everyone has time to prepare entries. Increase the

competition and join the fun in this popular vote contest.

December — Winter Scene
January — Engines (Steam or Diesel)
February — Online Industry
March — Cars

Watch for new categories in the next *RPO*!

Gateway Central VI Progress Report

The newest project railroad looks nice. Benchwork and basic trackwork are complete. Scenery work is underway with the layout having received its first layer of paint, ground foam and trees. Ballasting of the track is about 60% finished. Construction of the major structures has begun with a few smaller structures still to go.

Gateway Central VI had its first public showing at the GATS Show in Collinsville on November 28 and 29.

GATS Show Award

Gateway Central VI was awarded the Fourth Place Layout Award in the popular vote at the November GATS Show in Collinsville.

This is quite an accomplishment for a layout-in-the-works and considering all the great layouts in display. Congratulations to the builders and all the volunteers; great work!

Gateway Division Mission Statement

*To promote the hobby of model railroading;
to represent the member's interests and
insure that everyone receives full value from*

membership at the local, regional and national level; and to provide education for members and the general public regarding the hobby of model railroading.

1998 Gateway Division Annual Train Show Model Contest Results

by Kevin Hampton

Thanks to everyone who entered the model and photo contest at this year's Gateway Train Expo. The 99 entries (45 of those photos) demonstrated the excellent participation and spirit of competition which are hallmarks of our Division's Annual Contest. We had two youth entries this year as well. Though two minor categories had no entries and two categories had only one entry, the other categories provided hot competition for the participants.

The smash hit of the model contest was the elaborate, highly researched, and fabulously constructed "Crossing the High Sierra" diorama by Brad Joseph.

If you haven't taken the opportunity to enter a contest yet, be sure to enter next year (start your construction now!). As many of this year's entrants will tell you, you don't have to be a world class modeler or Master Model Railroader to enjoy the competition and bring home a nice certificate or one of the first place plaques.

Steam Locomotives, 1st Place – Jerel Eames



Diesel Locomotives, 1st & 2nd Generation, 1st Place – Brad Meers



Diesel Locomotives, 1st & 2nd Generation, 2nd Place – Jim Anderson



photos by Richard Schumacher

Diesel Locomotives, 1st & 2nd Generation, 3rd Place – Dan Kohlberg



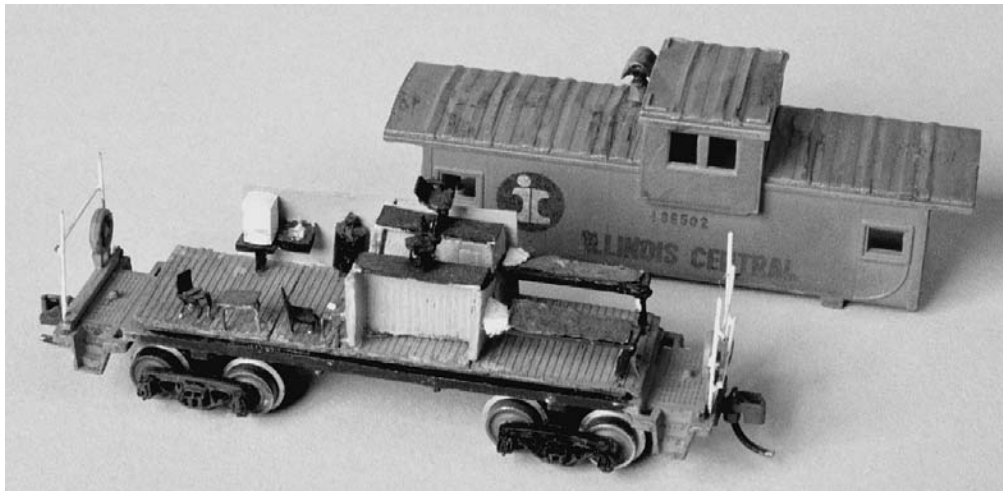
Diesel Locomotives, 3rd & 4th Generation, 1st Place – Ken Rees



Caboose, 1st Place – Dan Kohlberg



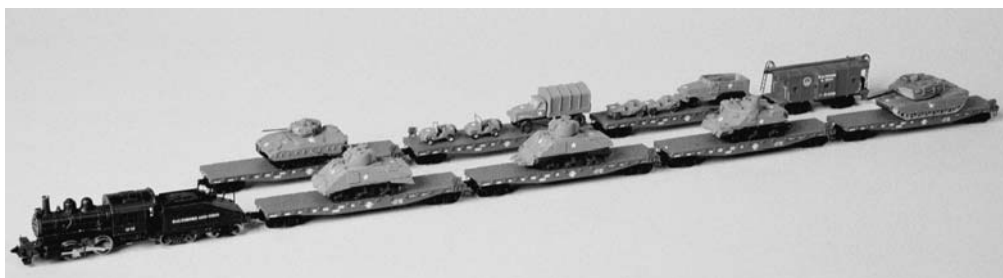
Caboose, 2nd Place – Loren Casey



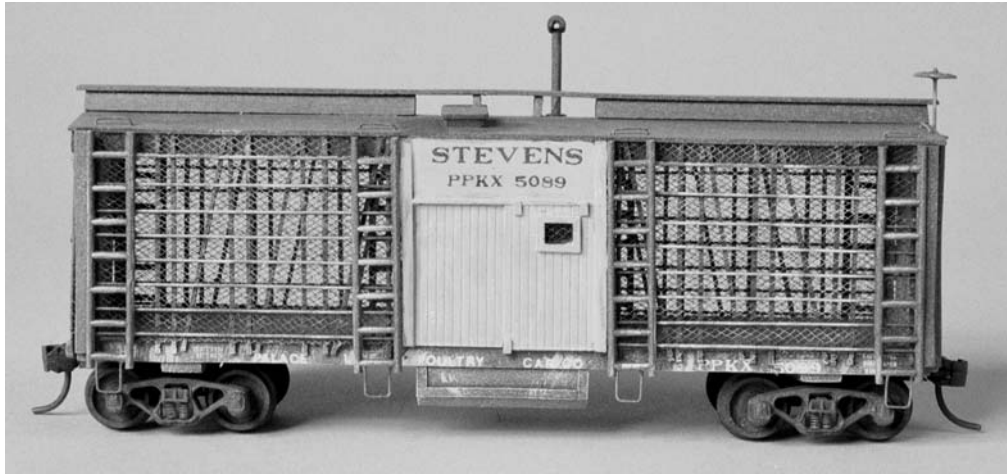
Caboose, 3rd Place – Charles Taylor



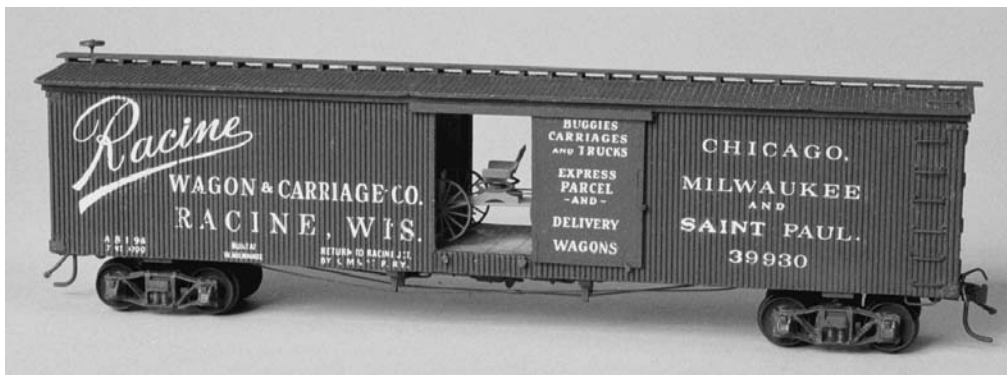
Whole Train, 1st Place – Charles Taylor



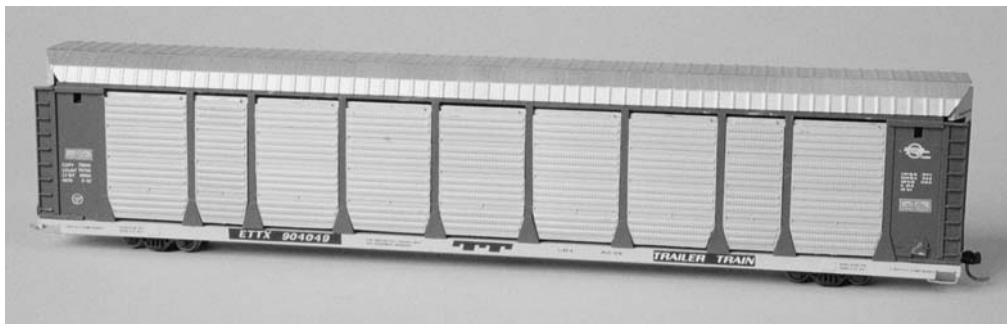
Freight Car, 1st Place - Kent Hurley



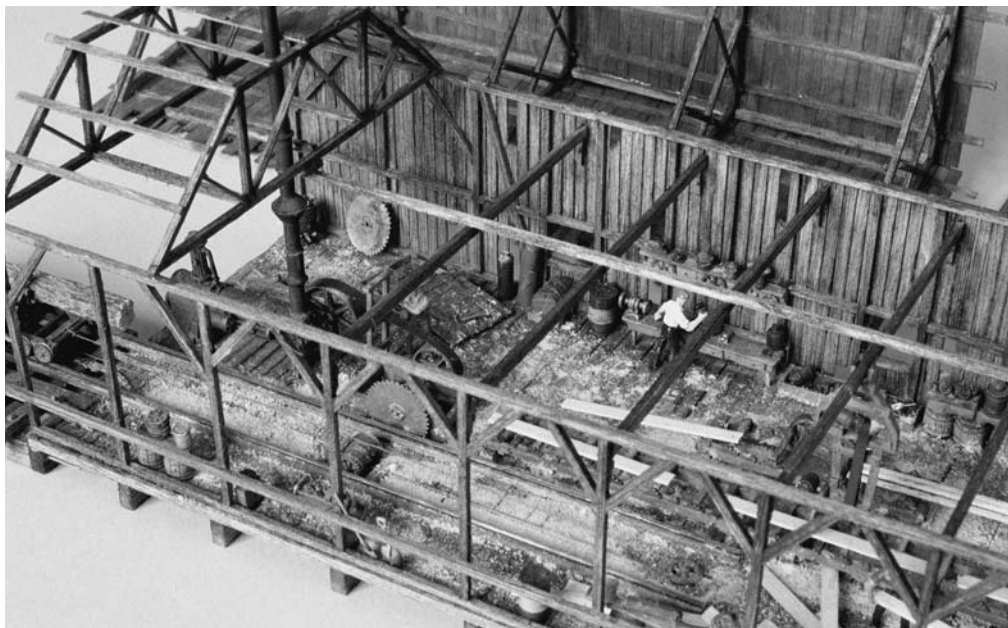
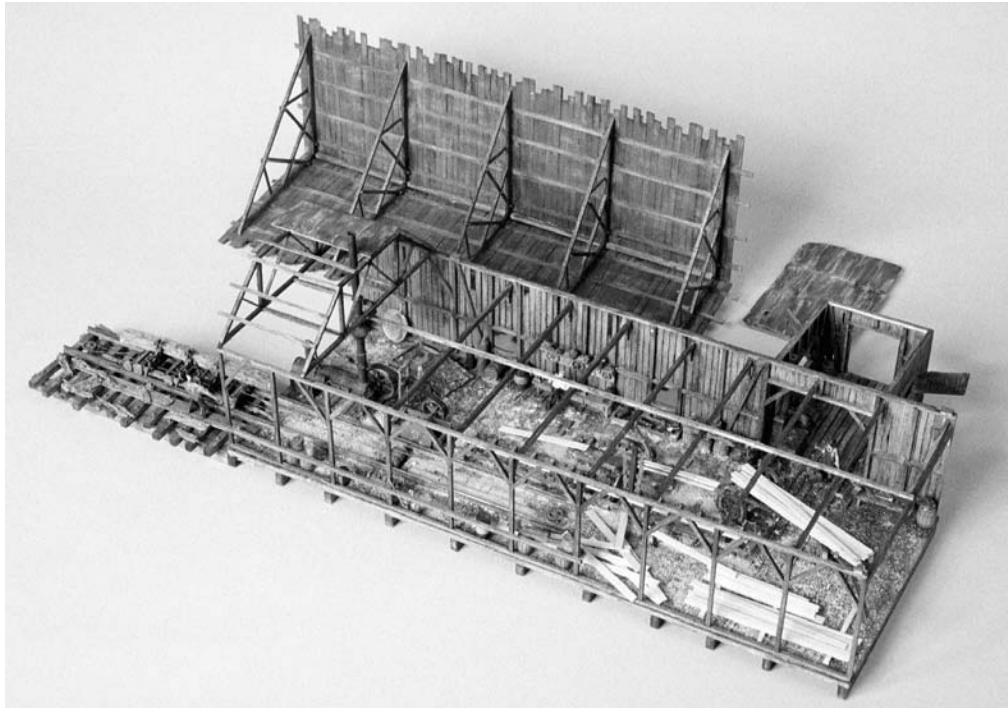
Freight Car, 2nd Place - Anna Isbell



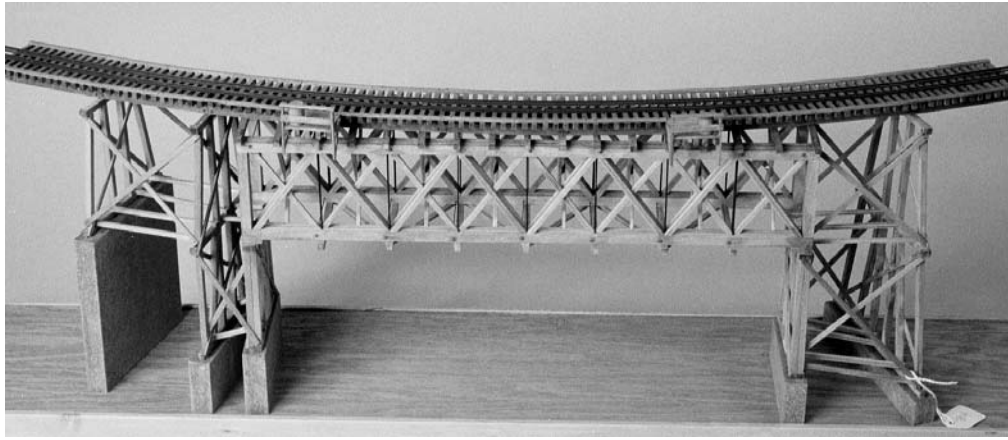
Freight Car, 3rd Place - Loren Casey



Structures, 1st Place - Don Taschner



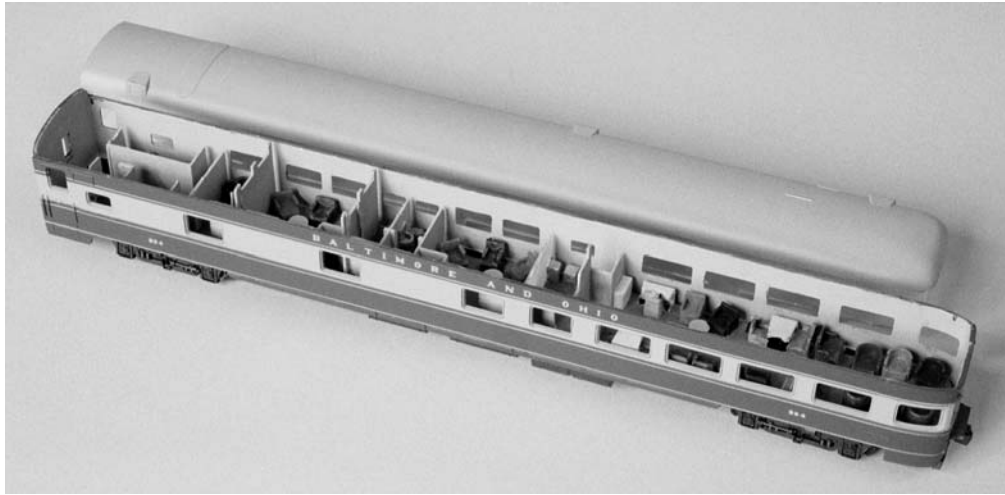
Structures, 2nd Place – Tom Troughton



Structures, 3rd Place – Jeff Mueth



Passenger Car, 1st Place – Charles Taylor



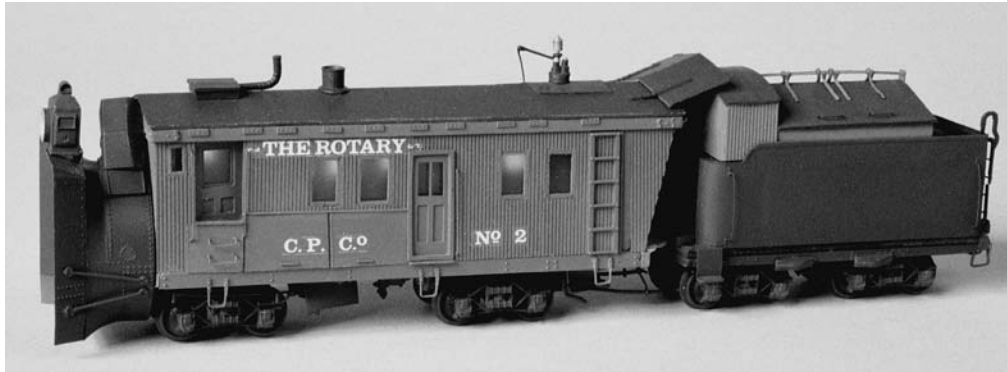
Passenger Car, 2nd Place – Charles Taylor



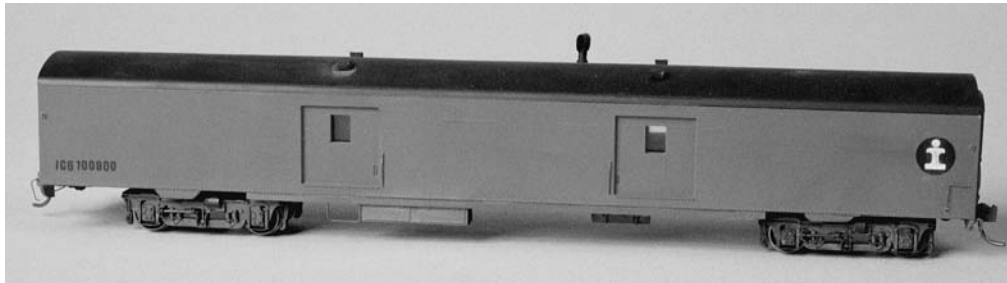
Passenger Car, 3rd Place – Charles Taylor



Maintenance of Way, 1st Place – Brad Joseph



Maintenance of Way, 2nd Place – Loren Casey



Diorama, 2nd Place – Roxy Metzler



Prototype Color Slide, 1st Place – Randy Domineck (*see cover photo*)

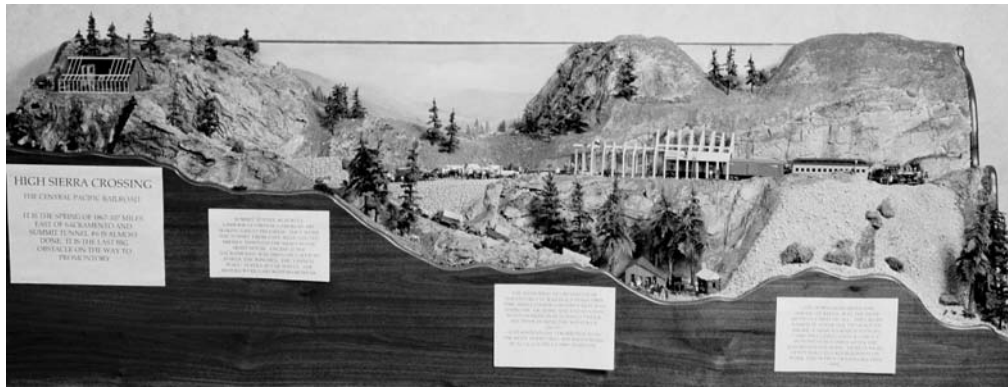
Prototype Color Slide, 2nd Place – Kevin Hampton



Prototype Color Slide, 3rd Place – Kevin Hampton



Diorama, 1st Place and Best of Show - Brad Joseph





Youth Model, 1st Place – Justin Sobeck



Youth Model, 2nd Place – Justin Sobeck



Prototype Color Photograph

- 1st Place – Richard Schumacher
- 2nd Place – Kevin Hampton
- 3rd Place – Gregor Moe

Prototype B&W Photograph

- 1st Place – Gregor Moe
- 2nd Place – Bonnie Moe
- 3rd Place – Loren Casey

Model Color Photograph

- 1st Place – Randy Domineck
- 2nd Place – Randy Domineck
- 3rd Place – Randy Domineck

Model B&W Photograph

- 1st Place – Gregor Moe

Special Awards

WHGK Architects Award
Don Taschner



Marvin's Camera Award
Kevin Hampton



Gateway Western Railway
Modern Railroading Award
Ken Rees



NMRA Master Model Railroader
Tom Troughton



Congratulations to Tom Troughton who was recognized as MMR #277 at our fall meet.

William F. Schumacher
Spirit of Railroading Award
Brad Joseph



Brad was also awarded *Best in Show* for his "High Sierra Crossing" diorama.

Where's the Meeting?

Meetings in odd numbered months (January, March, May, July, and Sept.) are held at the National Museum of Transportation in west St. Louis County. From I-270, take Dougherty Ferry Road west to Barrett Station Road and go south to the Museum.

Meetings in even numbered months (the other ones) are held in Illinois at the VFW Hall at 221 W. 1st Street in O'Fallon, IL. Take I-64 to State Route 50 (O'Fallon exit). Turn east on 50 toward O'Fallon, go approximately 1/2 mile and turn left onto State Street. Continue on State to Oak Street. Turn right on Oak, cross the railroad tracks and immediately turn left onto First Street. The VFW Hall is on the right about halfway down the block.

Division meetings are the third Monday of each month with the clinic portion starting at 7:00 pm. The business meeting follows the clinic after a short break. Illinois meetings may be interrupted occasionally for train watching activities. Meeting updates may be obtained at the Division's web site <http://home.stlnet.com/~rlake>

December 21, 1998 (7pm)
Division Meeting, VFW Hall, O'Fallon

January 18, 1999 (7pm)
Division Meeting, Museum of Transport

February 15, 1999 (7pm)
Division Meeting, VFW Hall, O'Fallon