



# NMRA BULLETIN

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## HEADQUARTERS

### MEETING NOTICE

The NMRA Board of Directors will hold the mid-year meeting in Sacramento, California, beginning on January 18, 2007, at 7:30PM from time to time and day to day until completed. The meeting is at the Sacramento (Old Town) Vagabond Inn Executive, located at 909 Third Street, Sacramento, CA 95814. Members are invited to attend all sessions that are open.

## ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM

### NMRA AP CERTIFICATE REPORT

\*Indicates first Certificate of Achievement

### NOVEMBER 2006

### GOLDEN SPIKE

#### Lone Star Region

(Al Boos, MMR, Manager)

Frank Schmidt (L-2187), Lakeway, Texas

#### Mid Eastern Region

(Charles Flichman, Manager)

Ronald Wampler, Sr. Virginia Beach, Virginia

Jeff Warner, MER 684 Eppers, Pennsylvania

#### Pacific Southwest Region

(Don Stewart, Manager)

Dave Arendes, Santa Ana, California

Hal Carlson (L 5590), Westminster, California

James Fuhrman, Garden Grove, California

Carl Heimberger, Anaheim, California

Ted Johnson, Santa Ana, California

Joseph Villaryo, Anaheim, California

Harold Whiteley, Calimesh, California

## MASTER BUILDER—MOTIVE POWER

### Mid-Continent Region

(Marty Vaughn, MMR, Manager)

Myron Weber, MCoR 790, Beecher, Illinois

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All notices of changes or corrections to this page must be directed to the NMRA Secretary

2007 NMRA National Convention Dates and National Train Show Reservations:

Detroit, MI • July 22 - 28, 2007 • Info: • <http://www.nmra.org/2007/>

Trade Show Booth Reservations—Debbie Draper, Registrar • 10837 N. 34th Place, Phoenix, AZ 85028-3310 • (602) 569-9072 • [nattrainshow@aol.com](mailto:nattrainshow@aol.com)

2008—Anaheim, CA • 2009—Hartford, CT • 2010—Milwaukee, WI • 2011—Sacramento, CA

### **Pacific Northwest Region**

*(Jack Hamilton, MMR, Manager)*

J. Kyle Gardiner, PNR 411, West Vancouver, BC Canada

### **MASTER BUILDER-CARS**

#### **Mid-Central Region**

*(Frank Koch, Manager)*

Lawson Stevenson, MCR 75, Ashtabula, Ohio

#### **Mid-Continent Region**

*(Marty Vaughn, MMR, Manager)*

Myron Weber, MCoR 791, Beecher, Illinois

#### **Thousand Lakes Region**

*(John Hotvet, MMR, Manager)*

Lester Breurer (L 4538), TLR 262, Minneapolis, Minnesota

### **MASTER BUILDER-STRUCTURES**

#### **Mid-Central Region**

*(Frank Koch, Manager)*

Lawson Stevenson, MCR 751, Ashtabula, Ohio

#### **Mid-Continent Region**

*(Marty Vaughn, MMR, Manager)*

Chris Dancy, MCoR 794, Sylvan Grove, Kansas

Charles Heying, MCoR 787, Overland Park, Kansas

Myron Weber, MCoR 789, Beecher, Illinois

### **MASTER BUILDER-SCENERY**

#### **Mid-Central Region**

*(Frank Koch, Manager)*

Harold Taylor, MCR 749, Columbia Station, OH

#### **Mid-Continent Region**

*(Marty Vaughn, MMR, Manager)*

Pete Bellos, MCoR 783, Shawnee, KS

Chris Dancy, MCoR 795, Sylvan Grove, Kansas

Robert Stewart, MCoR 786, Manhattan, Kansas

Myron Weber, MCoR 793, Beecher, Illinois

### **Pacific Southwest Region**

*(Don Stewart, Manager)*

Bill Flinn\* (L 5105), PSR 256, Santa Ana, California

### **MODEL RAILROAD ENGINEER-CIVIL**

#### **Mid-Continent Region**

*(Marty Vaughn, MMR, Manager)*

Myron Weber, MCoR 792, Beecher, Illinois

### **Thousand Lakes Region**

*(John Hotvet, MMR, Manager)*

Thomas Mauszycki, TLR 264, Winona, Minnesota

### **MODEL RAILROAD ENGINEER-ELECTRICAL**

#### **Mid-Continent Region**

*(Marty Vaughn, MMR, Manager)*

Pete Bellos (L 5342), MCoR 782, Shawnee, Kansas

John Shaw, MCoR 781, Cedar Rapids, Iowa

Myron Weber, MCoR 788, Beecher, Illinois

#### **Mid Eastern Region**

*(Charles Flichman, Manager)*

Jeff Warner, MER 684, Eppers, Pennsylvania

#### **Thousand Lakes Region**

*(John Hotvet, MMR, Manager)*

Thomas Mauszycki, TLR 265, Winona, Minnesota

### **CHIEF DISPATCHER**

#### **Lone Star Region**

*(Al Boos, MMR, Manager)*

J. Stephen Sandifer, LSR 510, Meadows Place, Texas

#### **Mid Eastern Region**

*(Charles Flichman, Manager)*

Jeff Warner, MER 685, Eppers, Pennsylvania

### **ASSOCIATION OFFICIAL**

#### **Northeastern Region**

*(Paul Allard, MMR, Manager)*

Rudy Slovacek, NER 426, Norfolk, Massachusetts

### **ASSOCIATION VOLUNTEER**

#### **Mid Eastern Region**

*(Charles Flichman, Manager)*

Michele Chance, MER 683, Kannapolis, North Carolina

#### **Northeastern Region**

*(Paul Allard, MMR, Manager)*

Andy Wasowicz\* (L 6003), NER 427, Ridgewood, New York

### **Pacific Northwest Region**

*(Jack Hamilton, MMR, Manager)*

Ted Becker\* (L2041), Marysville, Washington

### **Pacific Southwest Region**

*(Don Stewart, Manager)*

Donald Fowler, PSR 257, Santee, California

### **MODEL RAILROAD AUTHOR**

#### **Mid-Continent Region**

*(Marty Vaughn, MMR, Manager)*

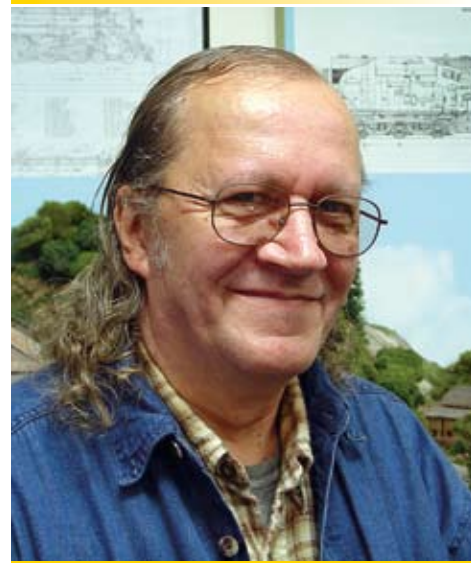
Venita Lake, MCoR 785, St. Louis, Missouri

### **Pacific Northwest Region**

*(Jack Hamilton, MMR, Manager)*

Didrik Voss, MMR, PNR 408, Mill Creek, Washington

### **MMRS EARNED**



**BRIAN CURRY EARNS MMR #350**

**B**rian Curry may be a bit of a rebel, but he has also earned respect as one of the premier modelers in our hobby today.

Brian was one of the charter members of the HO scale Skaneateles Model Railroad Club, just outside of Syracuse, New York. His NMRA involvement grew into years of participation in contests at all levels, earning him the Baldwin Trophy several times for highest score among all entries at Northeastern Region convention contests. His active leadership in the Central New York Division of the Northeast Region continued as the AP representative for years. Yet, he was always ready help a model railroading buddy.

Brian models an N scale freelanced adaptation of the Rochester, Syracuse & Eastern, a prototype interurban line connecting those cities and running parallel with the New York Central main line in Upstate New York. That line interchanges with his freelanced Nn3 Central New York

logging line with extensive scratchbuilt equipment and structures. Brian also has a detached and small HO<sub>n</sub>2½ layout under construction at home.

Brian's friends tease him and question his sanity in detailing the interiors of his N scale structures right down to a roll of toilet paper in the bathrooms (true!). But, in reality, the extraordinary and exquisite detail of his modeling in N scale is breathtaking.

Brian is a disabled U.S. veteran. He and his wife, Denise, have three grown children and three grandchildren. They often mix visits to Maine by visiting with family and narrow-gauge attractions up there. He says that his experience with the AP has been all about the fun and education and not on the competition, and that the AP is one of the best learning processes to learn and enjoy the hobby.

*Brian has earned certificates as follows: Master Builder-Motive Power, Cars, Structures, Scenery, Model Railroad Engineer-Civil, Electrical, and Volunteer.*



**RICH NEWMILLER EARNS MMR #374**

**I**n his own words, Rich tells his story about his journey to the MMR.

My father always let me run his Lionel trains at Christmas, but in 1965, at age 12, I became the proud owner of a basic HO set that included a 36-inch circle of snap track, four cars, and a 4-4-0 *General* locomotive. Layouts of various sizes have come and gone over the years as interest in the hobby varied and family and career demands increased. In 1992, I started the planning and design process for my current layout — the free-lanced Dresher Division of the Pennsylvania Railroad. The goal for this layout would be a smooth-running, realistic-looking model railroad like those featured in the monthly hobby magazines.

The design was strongly influenced by several handbooks, the most significant be-

ing *Track Planning for Realistic Operation* by John Armstrong. Benchwork and track installation in the 11x14 layout room was completed in about a year's time, but then I seemed to hit a brick wall. Engine performance was poor, block control was cumbersome (the DPDT switches in the reversing loops always seemed to be in the wrong position), and modeling rocks, trees and water that resembled mother nature seemed impossible. With my background in design and construction (electrician, mechanical engineer, and project manager), I decided to concentrate on something that I was familiar with — building structures. The layout became dormant and for several years my only activity was building detailed structures on the bench. Kitbashing, craftsman kits, and scratchbuilding was the natural progression and very rewarding — but what about all of that idle track in the layout room?

For me the missing link was interaction with other modelers. So, in 2001, the MMR journey began with a search on the NMRA website for the Achievement Program. The requirements seemed overwhelming. I found my local AP Coordinator, Dave Messer, MMR, and contacted him via email. After several conversations with Dave, I decided to start toward my MMR status by completing the requirements for Model Railroad Engineer — Electrical. All went well with the physical inspection, and I was on my way. It was then I started to attend the local division meetings, and there I found help with the next challenge — Civil Engineer. This certificate, in part, required hand-laying a section of track with two scratchbuilt turnouts and a crossing. A local layout owner, Steve Salotti, and a local club member, Val Pistilli, showed me some of their techniques. That firsthand experience and the five article series in *The Bulletin* (January to May 2001) allowed me to successfully complete the requirements, and the rest is history. It would not have been possible without the support of my teenage daughter Rachel and help from many fellow modelers that I have had the privilege of getting to know at hobby shops, meets, layout tours, clinics, contests, and conventions. It is amazing just how much there is to learn in this great hobby, and I hope that I can assist and inspire others to achieve their goals.

*Rich has earned certificates as follows: Master Builder-Cars, Structures, Scenery, Model Railroad Engineer-Civil, Electrical, Association Volunteer, and Author.*



**BILL BROWN EARNS MMR #371**

**B**ill Brown, MMR 371, is an anomaly of sorts. Physically, he is a *big* guy, having lettered at Syracuse University in football and wrestling. But there is nothing slow about Bill. His friends joke that he models at “warp speed” and has earned his MMR in very short time.

Bill has been a model railroader almost forever, dabbling with three-rail Lionel, a 4x8 HO layout, and N scale along the way through childhood, high school, and college. Now, Bill and his 16-year-old son, Steven, have built and operate an HO scale basement layout relatively unique in its applied vision.

Instead of modeling the Lehigh Valley, the Jersey Central, and the other regional roads of his youth, Bill prefers to model special bits and pieces, some dead-on and others strongly represented by the flavor of the prototype scene. To tie this together, Bill and Steven have developed the LARC (Lehigh Alliance of Rail Carriers) as the model rail system serving as the center of the very believable blend of images Bill has created. The LARC is the feature cover story in the August 2006 issue of *Model Railroader*.

Bill's involvement in the hobby extends well outside the basement. He is a past superintendent of the Central New York Division in the Northeast Region, and is the current president of the Central New York Modelers, an award-winning HO scale module group well known throughout the northeastern U.S. Bill and Steven also model in G scale, are active with the CNY Large Scalers, and have a garden railroad outside at their home in Upstate New York. In fact, Bill's extraordinary effort in modeling G scale equipment to fine-scale standards has recently earned him the Baldwin Trophy for highest score at an NER convention.

Regarding the AP, Bill shared the super support and encouragement of other CNY Division members right from the start and values the association with others along the way as being most rewarding. He has enjoyed learning how to do new things and has savored the research, measuring, and photographic data gathering as much as the modeling itself.

Bill is an athletic director for a suburban Syracuse school district. He is an avid golfer and is coaching varsity high school football. He, Judy, and Steven have taken “active” family vacations to Colorado around railroad themes such as camping next to the Denver & Rio Grand Western main line and four-wheeling on abandoned rights-of-way. For a “big” guy, he sure keeps moving!

*Brian has earned certificates as follows:  
Master Builder-Motive Power, Structures,  
Scenery, Model Railroad Engineer-Electrical,  
Dispatcher, Volunteer, and Author.*