



# NMRA BULLETIN

## DEPARTMENT & PROGRAM MANAGERS

**Executive Department**  
**Executive Director—Vacant**  
If interested in this position, contact Mike Brestel

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**Howell Day Museum Manager — John E. Roberts, MMR (O)**  
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**Fund Raising Department Manager — Vacant**  
If interested in this position, contact Mike Brestel

## REGION PRESIDENTS

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**Sunshine Region—Stan Seeds, MMR**  
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**Thousand Lakes Region—Alan Saatkamp**  
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## ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM

### NMRA AP CERTIFICATE REPORT

\*Indicates first Certificate of Achievement

APRIL 2010

GOLDEN SPIKE

Midwest Region

Harold March, Elmhurst, Illinois

Southeastern Region

John Kelley, Smyrna, Georgia

MASTER BUILDER — CARS

Lone Star Region

Robert Mangrum, Early, Texas

Mid-Continent Region

Allen Merta, Cedar Rapids, Iowa

MASTER BUILDER — STRUCTURES

Lone Star Region

Steve Blackson, Austin, Texas

Mid-Central Region

Donald Birdsong, Lexington, Kentucky  
Georgia Dahlberg, Williamstown, Kentucky

Midwest Region

Mark Preussler, Sheboygan, Wisconsin

Rocky Mountain Region

James Harper, Santa Clara, Utah

Southeastern Region

Charles Millar, Buford, Georgia

MASTER BUILDER — SCENERY

Northeastern Region

Robert Seckler, Poughquag, New York

Rocky Mountain Region

David Bol, Parker, Colorado  
James Harper, Santa Clara, Utah

MASTER BUILDER — PROTOTYPE

MODELS

Mid-Continent Region

Brad Slone, Dixon, Missouri

Pacific Northwest Region

Kenneth Olsen, Adair Village, Oregon

MODEL RAILROAD ENGINEER —

CIVIL

Lone Star Region

Tom Browning, Dallas, Texas

Mid-Central Region

Georgia Dahlberg, Williamstown, Kentucky

Northeastern Region

Bernard Messenger, Sauquoit, New York

MODEL RAILROAD ENGINEER —

ELECTRICAL

Mid-Continent Region

Peter Jaynes, Cedar Rapids, Iowa

Midwest Region

Harold Helland, Hawthorn Woods, Illinois  
John Wolf, Kenosha, Wisconsin

Northeastern Region

Bernard Messenger, Sauquoit, New York

Pacific Southwest Region

Gordon Miller, San Diego, California

CHIEF DISPATCHER

Mid-Eastern Region

John Stralka, Ellicott City, Maryland

Pacific Southwest Region

Gordon Miller, San Diego, California  
James Shafer, Phoenix, Arizona

ASSOCIATION OFFICIAL

Pacific Northwest Region

Edward Schaefer, Coquille, Oregon

ASSOCIATION VOLUNTEER

Mid-Continent Region

Dennis Brandt, Norfolk, Nebraska  
James VanDelden, Wayne, Nebraska

Mid-Central Region

Norman Courtney, Dayton, Ohio  
John Gafney, Dublin, Ohio

Mid-Eastern Region

Brian Good, Harleysville, Pennsylvania

MODEL RAILROAD AUTHOR

Lone Star Region

Steve Blackson, Austin, Texas

Mid-Continent Region

Dennis Brandt, Norfolk, Nebraska

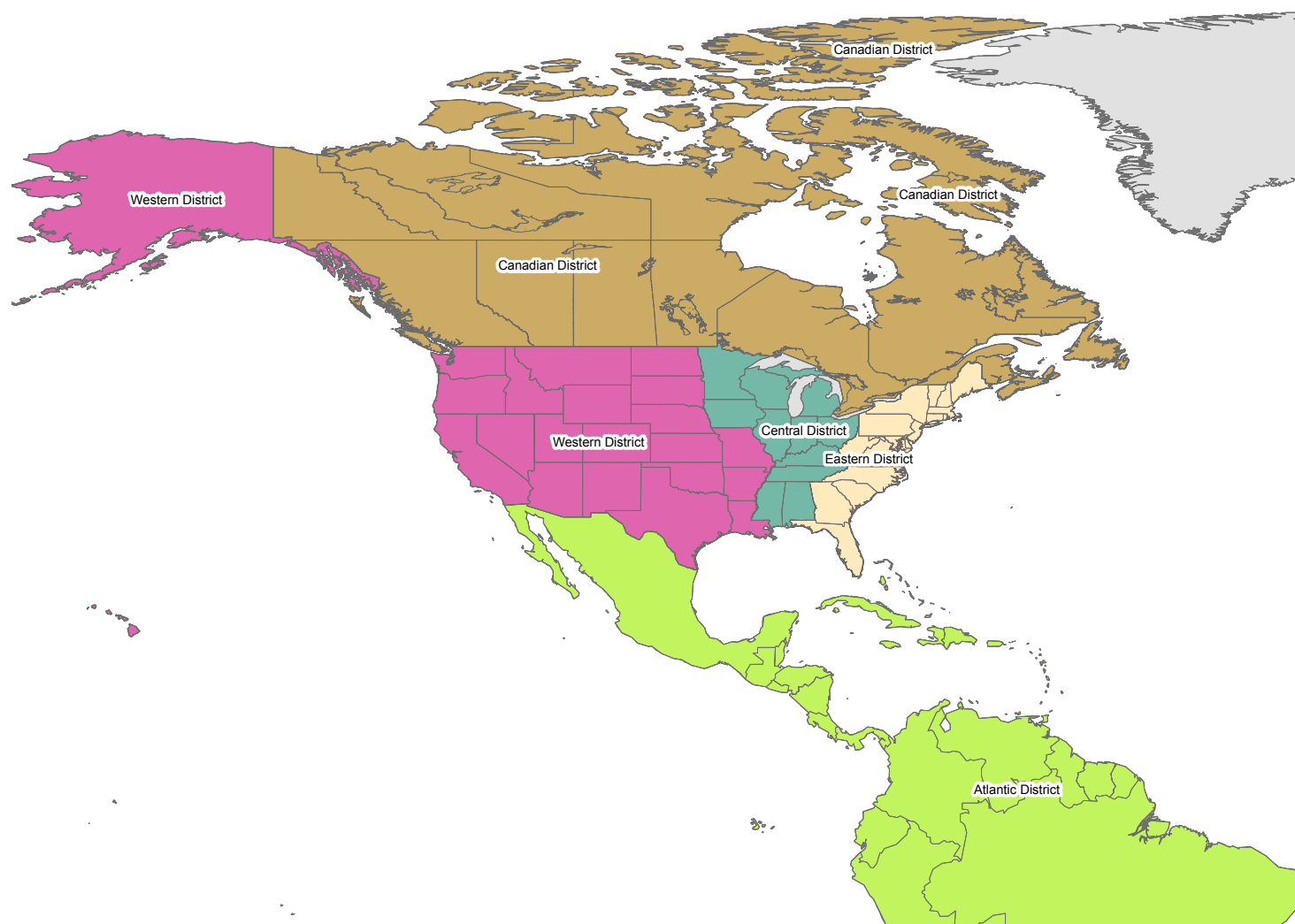
Mid-Eastern Region

Murray White, Owings, Maryland

Pacific Southwest Region

Bruce Petrarca, Goodyear, Arizona

MMR GROUP: All MMRs are invited to work with other MMRs by contacting Rick Shoup, MMR, at ricshoup@verizon.net. If you have questions about the AP program or requirements, start with your local or Region AP manager. If you still have questions, contact Frank Koch at fjkoch@hotmail.com. If you prefer to write, contact Frank at 4769 Silverwood Dr., Batavia, OH 45103.



## NOTICE OF ELECTIONS

The following NMRA Board of Directors positions are open for election in 2011:

1. Central District Director;
2. Canadian District Director; and
3. Regional Advisory Council (RAC) Director.

Please check Article III, paragraph 12, of the NMRA Executive Handbook, EHB, located at [http://www.nmra.org/national/organization/nmra\\_organization.html](http://www.nmra.org/national/organization/nmra_organization.html) for the extent of the districts affected. Qualifications for candidates are listed in the EHB.

All submissions of candidates' names for consideration by the Nominations Committee for the Central District Director shall be submitted to Didrik Voss, Chairman of the Nominations Committee, [davoss@pvmtengr.com](mailto:davoss@pvmtengr.com), no later than July 30, 2010.

Nominations for the Canadian District Director are managed by the Canadian Nominating Committee. Contact Clark Koening, MMR, Canadian Regional Director, [candir@hq.nmra.org](mailto:candir@hq.nmra.org), for more information.

Nominations for the Regional Advisory Council Director are managed by the

Regional Advisory Council. Contact Bob Ferguson, RAC Director, [racdir@hq.nmra.org](mailto:racdir@hq.nmra.org) for more information.

Candidates may wish to run for these positions by petition and not be subjected to the decisions of the respective Nominations Committees. Requirements for submitting by petition are contained in the EHB. All submissions by petition shall be received by the Secretary NMRA no later than September 15, 2010.



## MARVIN R. PREUSSLER EARNS MMR #432

I was introduced to model railroading by my father, Merlin, at a very young age. He had a Lionel O 27 layout that he set up on a ping-pong table every year around Christmastime. My older brother, Mark, decided that HO scale was more prototypical. Dad then bought a Lionel HO scale train set and we set that up on a more permanent table. My dad had a co-worker, Herb Weiss, who was also a great model railroader. Seeing Herb's excellent layout was really a big influence for me. It was the first HO scale prototype-based model railroad that I had ever seen. Seeing Herb's layout for the first time was what really got me hooked into the hobby.

Merlin, Mark, and I took down the small HO scale train set and started construction on a new layout that took up the entire basement at my parent's house. Herb had some really nice contest-quality custom-painted locomotives. There was an NMRA division meet going on nearby, so I worked on a locomotive, entered it into the model contest, and failed miserably! The NMRA contest judge, Dave Allen, pointed out and made notes as to what I could do better the next time. I took his advice and custom-painted and detailed a new locomotive model and took my first Best of Show award in the model contest. I was 23 at the

time, so this was a pretty big accomplishment for me in my mind.

After that, I met Rich Hanke from Manitowoc, Wisconsin. He is a life member of the NMRA and was our Winnebagoland Division AP Chairman at that time. Rich was giving a clinic on the AP Program at one of our meets, so I listened and got interested in it. Rich encouraged me to join the NMRA and get involved with the AP. I did both and started earning AP certificates for the work that I did on my section of the layout at my parent's house.

It was a lot of fun entering the model contests in our Winnebagoland Division because my brother Mark would enter a model in the same contest. Mark is an extremely talented prototype modeler who is also going to be a MMR soon. So we always had a friendly competition going at these meets. I am younger than Mark by just a few years, so I always kind of looked at what he was doing and wanted to do that, too. (Of course, I wanted to do it better. That is how it works with brothers!) During the rides to our Division meets, I would be telling Mark how bad I was going to beat his model, and he would be giving me reasons why his model was superior to mine. We certainly became better modelers because of the rivalry and getting involved in the Division model contests.

I moved out and got my own house and started my own operations-based prototype

HO scale layout based on the Green Bay & Western Railroad. I earned more certificates along the way due to the building of this layout and the limited number of GB&W models available at the time. After the layout was operable, Mark created our own operating group called LAPM (Lakeshore Area Prototype Modelers). One of the members in our group is Don Manlick from Manitowoc, Wisconsin. Don, MMR No. 56, is the best modeler that I have ever met. Don has encouraged me and shared a lot of his knowledge of the AP and modeling in general with me. Don had worked for Chicago & North Western, so he gained a lot of knowledge from his job that he could apply to modeling. His attention to detail when it comes to modeling is second to none in my opinion. Don was our Winnebagoland Division AP chairman, so when he stepped down, I took over that position. I then got more involved going to Midwest Region meets. Later, I met Bill Myers at a Midwest Region meet. He was our MWR AP Chairman. I enjoyed working with him for many years. Due to health concerns, Bill asked me if I wanted to be the Midwest Region AP Chairman. So, in 2006, I took over as the MWR AP Chairman and am presently serving the NMRA in that capacity.

Getting involved in the NMRA and the AP was a great opportunity for me. I never set out to be a MMR, but I figured as long as I was doing these various things, I should just fill out the paperwork and get the credit for it. I have definitely become a better modeler due to my participation in the AP. I can say that I have enjoyed the hobby also by helping others working in the AP. It has also been a great pleasure to meet so many fine modelers along the way. I would like to thank Rich Hanke for getting me involved in the AP. I would also like to thank Dave Allen, our Winnebagoland Division contest chairman, who is a fantastic modeler, for all his insight and advice through the years. Also, big thanks to my brother Mark, Don Manlick, Joe DeGroot, Dale Krueger, Ivan Ver Gowe, and of course my dad, Merlin, who started this all, and my mom, Marilyn, who put up with it!

Marvin has earned the following certificates: Model Railroad Author, Chief Dispatcher, Volunteer, Master Builder—Motive Power, Master Builder—Scenery, Model Railroad Engineer—Electrical, and Model Railroad Official. 📄