

NMRA BULLETIN

DEPARTMENT & PROGRAM MANAGERS

Chief Administrative Officer —

Jenny Hendricks

P.O. Box 1328

Soddy Daisy, TN 37384-1328

O: 423-892-2846 Fax: 423-899-4869

e-mail: nmrahq@nmra.org

Library - 423-892-2846 or nmraops@nmra.org

Education Department Manager —

Bruce De Young

23 Holiday Lane

West Milford, NJ 07480

H: 973-697-8098 C: 201-803-9766

e-mail: educate@nmra.org

Education Department Assistant Manager —

Nobby Clarke (HO, N)

34 Hopmeadow Court

Northampton, England, NN3 8QG

+44-1604-415020

Howell Day Museum Committee Chair —

Allen Pollock

PO Box 243

Jefferson City, MO 65102-0243

H: 573-619-8532

e-mail: museum@nmra.org

Information Technology Department —

Ben Sevier

12793 War Horse St.

San Diego, CA 92129-2219

(858) 538-9863

e-mail: itmanager@nmra.org

Development & Fund Raising Department

Manager — Alan Anderson

4744 Colander Dr.

West Jordan, UT 84088 H: 801-613-0801

e-mail: fund@nmra.org

Marketing Department — Director VACANT

Marketing Department — VP

Page Martin

PO Box 14789

Long Beach, CA 90853 H: 714-234-4488

e-mail: marketing@nmra.org

Meetings and Trade Show Department

Manager — Bob Amsler

514 Dover Place

Saint Louis, MO 63111-2338

H: 314-606-6118

Fax: 314-754-2688

e-mail: conv@nmra.org

Publications Department Manager —

Don Phillips

5381 Heather Cir.

Mason, Ohio 45040-2269

513 226-2233

e-mail: pubs@nmra.org

Have you changed your address or other membership information?

Notify Headquarters

e-mail: nmrahq@nmra.org

Phone: 423-892-2846 (8am–4pm ET)

Mail: P.O. Box 1328

Soddy Daisy TN 37384-1328

NMRA Communications Director

VACANT

Standards and Conformance Department

Manager—Didrik A. Voss, MMR (HO)

15226 12th Dr SE

Mill Creek, WA 98012-3082

O: 425-337-5222 H: 425-337-7084

e-mail: tech-chair@nmra.org

REGION PRESIDENTS

Australasian Region—David O’Hearn

PO Box 4590, Lake Haven NSW 2263

H: 61 2 4393 9564 M: 61 407 811 577

e-mail president@nmra.org.au

British Region—Mike Arnold

3 Boxgate, Crowborough

East Sussex, UK TN6 1SF

H: +44 1892 459967

C: +44 07808 323094

e-mail: brprez@nmra.org

European Region—Alain Kap, MMR (HO, HO3, On3/30)

Kammerforststrasse 3a

D-54439 SAARBURG, Germany

Phone: +49 6581-603045

Mobile: +352 691-325089

e-mail: erprez@nmra.org

Lone Star Region—Steven Barkley, MMR

2060 Belvedere Drive, Beaumont, TX 77708

e-mail: lsrprez@nmra.org

H: (409) 898-4403

Mid-Central Region—Steve Kaplan

3238 Belvoir Blvd.

Beachwood, OH 44122

216-561-1648

e-mail: mcrprez@nmra.org

Mid-Continent Region —

Henry (Hank) Kraichely (HO)

716 Reinke Road, Ballwin, MO 63021

(H) 636-394-5151 (C) 314-520-6920

e-mail: mcocprez@nmra.org

Mid-Eastern Region—P.J. Mattson, MMR

129 East Ave., Swedesboro, NJ, 08085

856-467-0421

e-mail: merprez@nmra.org

Midwest Region—Paul Mangan

6187 Sun Valley Pkwy, Oregon, WI 53574

H: (608) 835-9577 e-mail: mwirprez@nmra.org

Niagara Frontier Region—Richard Hatton

205 Country Lane, Stayner ON L0M 1S0

705-428-9997

e-mail: nfrprez@nmra.org

North Central Region—Dave McMullian (HO)

279 S. River Rd., Waterville, OH 43566

H: (419) 878-4888 e-mail: ncrprez@nmra.org

Northeastern Region—John Doehring

34 Hadley Rd, Pepperell, MA 01463

H: (978) 877-9148 e-mail: nerprez@nmra.org

Pacific Coast Region—Ed Merrin

2115 E. Foothill Dr., Santa Rosa, CA 95404

H: (707) 542-3620 e-mail: pcrprez@nmra.org

Pacific Northwest Region—Shirley Sample

P.O. Box 314, Elk, WA 99009

H: (509) 292-8332 e-mail: pnrprez@nmra.org

Pacific Southwest Region—Carl Heimberger

1256 Old Hickory Road, Corona, CA 92882

H: (951) 256-1319 e-mail: psrprez@nmra.org

Rocky Mountain Region—Gary Myers

3717 S. Walden St. Aurora, CO 80013-3517

H: (720) 837-4393 e-mail: rmrprez@nmra.org

Southeastern Region—Glen Hall, MMR

609 Phyllis Street, Pensacola, FL 32503

H: (850) 982-2795 e-mail: serprez@nmra.org

Sunshine Region—Gilbert Thomas, Jr.

8119 Woodvine Cir., Lakeland, FL 33810

(863) 412-3090

e-mail: ssrprez@nmra.org

Thousand Lakes Region—Dennis Rietze

39 Shelagh Crescent Winnipeg MB R2G 1Z6

(204) 663-2302 e-mail: tlrprez@nmra.org

2016 NMRA National Convention Dates and National Train Show Reservations:

2016—Indianapolis, Indiana • July 3–10 • www.nmra2016.org

Train Show Booth Reservations—Jenny Hendricks Registrar - P.O. Box 1328, Soddy Daisy, TN 37384-1328

423-892-2846 • ntsreg@nmra.org

• 2017—Orlando, FL • 2018—Kansas City, MO • 2019—Salt Lake City, UT

ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM

NMRA AP CERTIFICATE REPORT MARCH 2016

GOLDEN SPIKE

Mid-Central Region

Bruce DeMaeyer, Versailles, Kentucky
Bruce Hukill, North Canton, Ohio

Mid-Eastern Region

Bob Duffield, Bordentown, New Jersey

North Central Region

Earnest Barry, Northport, Michigan

Northeastern Region

Charles Cole, Hillsborough, New Hampshire

Pacific Coast Region

Layton Gillette, Coarsegold, California

Rocky Mountain Region

Dean Dickerhoof, Golden, Colorado

Southeastern Region

Art Farwell, Landrum, South Carolina
John Moffat, Greenwood, South Carolina
Robert Seel, Central, South Carolina
Steve Todd, Easley, South Carolina

Sunshine Region

Joseph Brann, Orlando, Florida

MASTER BUILDER — CARS

Lone Star Region

Mike Mackey, Haltom City, Texas

Pacific Southwest Region

Bruce Petrarca, Goodyear, Arizona

MASTER BUILDER — STRUCTURES

Pacific Northwest Region

Joe Green, Sequim, Washington

Northeastern Region

Justin Maguire, Jr., Barrington, Rhode Island

MASTER BUILDER — SCENERY

Mid-Continent Region

Mark Malmkar, Kearney, Nebraska

Pacific Northwest Region

Joe Green, Sequim, Washington
Wain Miller, Milton, Washington

Sunshine Region

J. Joseph Brann, Orlando, Florida

MASTER BUILDER — PROTOTYPE MODELS

Pacific Northwest Region

Joe Green, Sequim, Washington

MODEL RAILROAD ENGINEER — CIVIL Lone Star Region

Mike Mackey, Haltom City, Texas

North Central Region

David Capron, Suttons Bay, Michigan

Pacific Southwest Region

Bruce Petrarca, Goodyear, Arizona

MODEL RAILROAD ENGINEER — ELECTRICAL

Lone Star Region

Mike Mackey, Haltom City, Texas

Pacific Southwest Region

Bruce Petrarca, Goodyear, Arizona

CHIEF DISPATCHER

Lone Star Region

Don Winn, Corinth, Texas

Mid-Eastern Region

David Albertson, Forked River, New Jersey

Northeastern Region

Lucien Champagne, Kennebunkport, Maine

Niagara Frontier Region

Grant Knowles, Nepean, Ontario

ASSOCIATION OFFICIAL

Mid-Central Region

Mike Hohn, Morgantown, West Virginia

ASSOCIATION VOLUNTEER

Midwest Region

Gerald Howard, Lisle, Illinois

Patrick Golden, LaGrange, Illinois
Tim Schubert, Wheaton, Illinois

Northeastern Region

David Sias, Meredith, New Hampshire
Steve Erickson, Middletown, Rhode Island

Pacific Northwest Region

Brian Pickering, Sammamish, Washington
Joe Green, Sequim, Washington

Thousand Lakes Region

Tom Ford, Dubuque, Iowa

MODEL RAILROAD AUTHOR

Northeastern Region

Steve Erickson, Middletown, Rhode Island

Sunshine Region

J. Joseph Brann, Orlando, Florida

MASTER MODEL RAILROADER

MMR 573 Mike Mackey, Haltom City, Texas

MMR 574 Bruce Petrarca, Goodyear, Arizona

AP QUESTIONS

If you have questions about the Achievement Program or requirements, start with your local or Region AP manager. If you still have questions, contact Frank Koch at fkoch@hotmail.com. If you prefer to write, contact Frank at 4769 Silverwood Drive, Batavia, OH 45103.

MMR GROUP

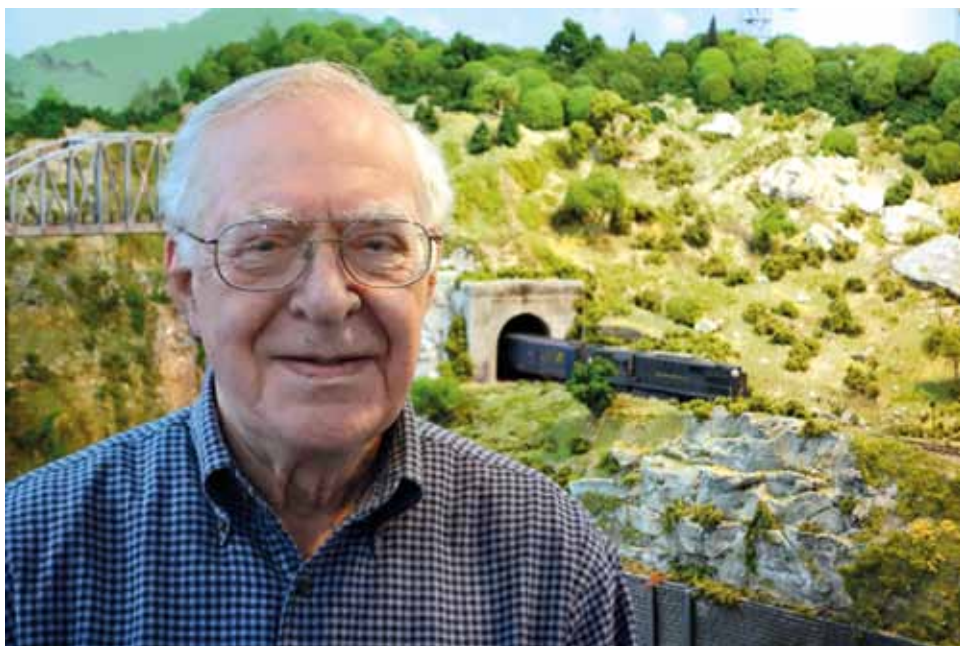
All Master Model Railroaders (MMR) are invited to work with other MMRs by contacting C.J. Riley, MMR, at cjriley42@yahoo.com.

MMRs: Master Model Railroader shirts and extra patches are available by contacting HQ in Soddy Daily, TN

The NMRA now accepts

PayPaltm

Use it for new memberships, membership renewals,
books, donations, the National convention...
anything and everything in our online store!



JOHN TRAVIS EARNS MMR #575

Model Railroad has been my major hobby during my adult life, beginning in 1980. I've always worked with others in building a layout, weekly operating sessions, railfanning, and activities within my local Piedmont Division. Working with others helped me learn faster, provided variety, and was more fun. I really became active in the NMRA for our 1995 Atlanta National Convention. We had a great convention, and I soon took an active part in every meeting and helped expand both our membership and fundraising activities.

Like many, I too had a train set as a kid. I did enjoy it but also enjoyed many other activities, especially baseball and basketball. So my background is not train-oriented.

For me, this is such a great hobby because it encompasses skills in many areas, including engineering, electrical, hands-on construction, computers, art, history, research, and railroad operation. I enjoy sharing my knowledge and experience with others and having a good time. The Achievement Program is good at suggesting many areas to hone your skills from hands-on construction, operation, and computer skills. Looking at the list of certificates at the end of this article, you can see that you are encouraged to broaden your view of the hobby.

My wife, Gerry, has been my major contributor to my modeling. She supports me in pursuing my hobby, so I stay active. I think she likes the idea of most of my hobby hours being spent at home.

She also volunteered to assist in my layout construction by using her artistic flare to do excellent scenery. Her quality pushes me to make sure my part is at least as good. Besides my wife, I believe Norm Stenzel and Rick Hemingway provided the most benefit to reaching my goals. From Norm, I appreciate the assistance in layout design and operation. Rick gave me many ideas on electronics and always pushed me further than I had planned. He was the first to give me the idea to eliminate control panels. Both Norm and Rick collaborated on the design of a computer system for operation and dispatching the railroad. I wrote the software, but they did much of the specification. Today, our CARS (Computer Assisted Railroad Signals) is still running just great. It preceded the hardware and software elements used today.

While serving as Superintendent of the Piedmont Division, I met Ron Gough, now MMR, when he volunteered to head up our first model train show at the local civic center. This event has become a cornerstone of our Division to introduce our hobby to the public and fund many projects. For the past couple of years, Ron has "pushed" me to finish my MMR requirements. I guess this final push is what I needed. Still another "push" came from our Division open house. We run an annual "Piedmont Pilgrimage" where we open about 50 layouts to the general public during National Model Railroad Month in November. All of us push to be ready for this event each year.

Our local club, the Village at Deaton Creek Model Railroad Club, continues to meet every week where we continue to build, operate, and have fun. One of our members, Peter Herman, who lives in the Netherlands most of the year, suggested we share both our layout design and operating technique on YouTube. So we developed one segment on the design of the Johnstown & Gerryville (<https://youtu.be/qm3aal52xhc>). Then, we followed this up with one on operation (https://youtu.be/g5yN7l_luMM). Note: on YouTube.com you can also search for "Gerryville." This is a simple example of using our current technology to encourage others into our great hobby.

All these influences helped me enjoy the hobby and finally reach my MMR goal. Of course, now I have a long "honey-do" list awaiting my attention, so I'll end my short note here.

AP Certificates John Travis

**Master Builder – Scenery
Association Volunteer
Model Railroad Engineer – Electrical
Model Railroad Author
Master Builder – Cars
Master Builder – Structures
Chief Dispatcher**



REV DR VERN CRACKNELL MMR 567

I have often wondered what influences in my life directed me to an interest in

modeling railways, to the point where it has become a dominant pursuit amongst my daily routines.

I vividly recall the experience on a scout hiking and camping trip with another scout when we were able to stand on the footplate of a mountain-type locomotive hauling a goods train from Willunga to Mile End, in South Australia. We were in our mid-teens and had mistakenly read the passenger train timetable, arriving in the evening when the passenger train was not to leave until the next morning. The goods train crew spotted our dilemma and said, "You can stay in the crew quarters with us tonight, and if you want to you could come with us on the footplate. We'll slow down for you to get off at Oaklands." That was a most memorable experience.

But it may have been the model tinplate, three-rail circle which our father had mounted on a framed board when my brother Peter and I were still at primary school. This was in the early war years when toys were in short supply. This was O gauge, with batteries secured beneath the board, which had run out by the evening of Christmas Day. My father's radio business friend solved this battery problem with a workshop-built transformer.

No doubt a significant gift came in my mid-teens when my uncle gave me a Hornby O-gauge locomotive, rolling stock, and tin plate track already well used. It could be packed in a bag and taken to friends' places, laid out on garden paths, with afternoons spent on working our trains. The locomotive, tender, and several remaining pieces of rolling stock sit on a shelf in my train room.

There must be some lasting influence of our father's decision to build a platform on our galvanized ironside fence so that as toddlers Peter and I could climb to watch the trains coming and going at Oaklands station some 400 meters away. There were no houses then to block the view.

During secondary school years, there was the daily trip to school in the Adelaide CBD with the question as we waited on the platform, "What will haul the train today?" The answer was either an F Class steam locomotive (I always thought this was an elegant engine) or perhaps the first of the diesels in the South Australian Railways as a shunter. These were times of severe coal strikes in Australia, so even the F Class locomotives were converted to oil-burning.

I recall a sense of frustration when we bought one of our sons, Paul, a train set for

a birthday present. That set received much use. We increased the amount of track, built a foam tunnel and mountain, made a bigger board, and that train was worked almost to its death. The frustration for me was that my work as a minister in a parish was demanding and time was severely limited. I wanted to do more.

So these must have been some of the influences leading to my strong railway interest. They represent pleasant memories, but modeling railways still lay in the future.

It was two or three years after my wife's illness and death in 1992 that model railways became a therapeutic, rewarding, and constructive pursuit. I was still working as a lecturer, but here was a purposeful way to be creative, solve problems, and learn new skills. I told my children that when I retired, I would take up modeling railways when the time was right. So one Father's Day, my younger son Paul (who had received the birthday present years before) gave me a transformer and a controller with the statement, "Put these in the cupboard, and when you are ready, get out my old train and get started." So it happened that I returned to modeling railways well before retirement.

After several years working on the home layout (HO scale), it was time to venture into the exhibition scene. This has had the added benefit of travel to many shows, particularly in South Australia and Victoria. In total, four different layouts have been exhibited, two in HO and one "Kangaroo and Cockatoo Railway" in G gauge has been shown some 47 times. An out-station of the K&CR, "Magpie Glen" (also in G), is still being exhibited.

I joined the NMRA late in my model railway journey. Of course, I had read about its existence and the standards that the organization has helped develop. Although I had come to know many modelers through the exhibition experience, I had been a private modeler and had never belonged to a club. Perhaps it was time to seek a new avenue for friendships with like-minded folk. I was attracted by the notion that NMRA membership did not involve working on a club layout. (I think I am too independent and too keen to see results to be happy with a layout project that is managed by a committee!)

I remain forever grateful to my older son Dale, who is an excellent controller of trains and helped me stage exhibits, especially interstate, and in latter times my brother Peter, who has done likewise, and

to a team of helpers who have assisted with loading and unloading of layouts through all the years of exhibitions. They have not been modelers (except one) but have helped the hobby and myself out of the goodness of their hearts. My daughters Lisa (who lives in a nearby suburb) and Mary (who lives on the other side of the continent) seem well pleased that their father has a worthwhile hobby that keeps him well occupied.

Sharing of Kangaroo and Cockatoo Railway with some members encouraged me to begin the Achievement Program. This has been a stimulating experience. Many aspects of the program were able to assess work already done, and self-evaluation and descriptions of how problems were solved have all proved of value. The process of documentation has also been an enjoyable aspect. Some new projects have helped hone skills.

To successfully complete the Achievement Program has been personally rewarding and satisfying. Membership of my Division is important — it leads me to appreciate the breadth of knowledge and experience that come to the fore when keen modelers from different gauges, styles, and particular modeling approaches come together. For example, modelers may say the layout's emphasis is "telling stories" or perhaps "depicting a historical time and place," or "demonstrating railway practices." And there are other approaches too. We teach and learn from each other, which is one of the great benefits of the NMRA.

I started the Achievement Program late in life, but young in NMRA membership. I am pleased and satisfied on all counts. There is still much to learn, to try, and lots to experience and enjoy.

AP Certificates Rev Dr Vern Cracknell

Master Builder – Cars
Master Builder – Motive Power
Model Railroad Engineer – Electrical
Master Builder – Scenery
Master Builder- Structures
Model Railroad Author
Model Railroad Engineer - Civil