

NMRA BULLETIN

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**Have you changed your address or
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Notify NMRA Headquarters

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Region Secretaries: send all
changes in Region officer infor-
mation to the NMRA Secretary:
secy@nmra.org.

2023 NMRA National Convention Dates and National Train Show Reservations:
Dallas, Texas August 20 – 26, 2023 (<https://www.2023texasexpress.com/>)
Train Show Booth Reservations—Jenny Hendricks Registrar - P.O. Box 1328, Soddy Daisy, TN 37384-1328
423-892-2846 • ntsreg@nmra.org
• 2024—Long Beach, California • 2025

rev 2/22/2023

ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM

NMRA AP CERTIFICATE REPORT

JANUARY 2023

GOLDEN SPIKE

Lone Star Region

Mike Barnette, Katy, Texas

John Romberger, Flower Mound, Texas

Midwest Region

Jerry Wienandt, Chilton, Wisconsin

MASTER BUILDER - CARS

Mid-Central Region

Susan Werner, Rostraver Twp, Pennsylvania

Midwest Region

Robert Perry, Avon, Indiana

Pacific Southwest Region

Michael Starkey, Douglas, Arizona

MASTER BUILDER - STRUCTURES

Mid-Central Region

Raymond Helster, Rostraver Twp, Pennsylvania

MODEL RAILROAD ENGINEER - CIVIL

Mid-Continent Region

Thomas Persoon, Coralville, Iowa

Thousand Lakes Region

Kenneth Zieska, Plymouth, Minnesota

MODEL RAILROAD ENGINEER - ELECTRICAL

Mid-Continent Region

Thomas Persoon, Coralville, Iowa

CHIEF DISPATCHER

Mid-Continent Region

Thomas Persoon, Coralville, Iowa

ASSOCIATION VOLUNTEER

Lone Star Region

David Crumpton, Arlington, Texas

Rocky Mountain Region

Rick Luther, Magna, Utah

MODEL RAILROAD AUTHOR

Rocky Mountain Region

Rick Luther, Magna, Utah

MASTER MODEL RAILROADER®

MMR® #729 Susan Werner, Rostraver Township, Pennsylvania

AP QUESTIONS: 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 achiev@nmra.org.

We're looking for a few good layouts...

...12 to be exact! You're proud of your model railroad. Why not share it by submitting a photo or two for the **2024** edition of the NMRA Model Railroad Calendar? The calendar is distributed to every U.S. member as a fundraising project. To have your layout photo considered for inclusion, just follow these easy steps:

- Take a horizontal (landscape) format photo of your layout.
- Submit your photo as a digital file. Files must be at least 300 pixels per inch and 8" x 12" (minimum size of 8.6 megapixels – larger is better). Accepted file types are **tiff** (preferred) or **jpg** (highest quality only).
- Write a caption describing the action in your shot, the scale, the builder, and the photographer. Include that information as a text or .doc file.
- Include your name, address, phone number and email with your submission.
- Please limit your entries to no more than your four best scenes.
- Submit your photo and text files for free at: www.wetransfer.com (no account needed).

NOTE: By submitting images for the 2024 NMRA Calendar, you are giving permission to the editors to alter them as needed (cropping, smoke and lighting effects, etc). Please indicate specifically if you do **NOT** give permission to alter your images.

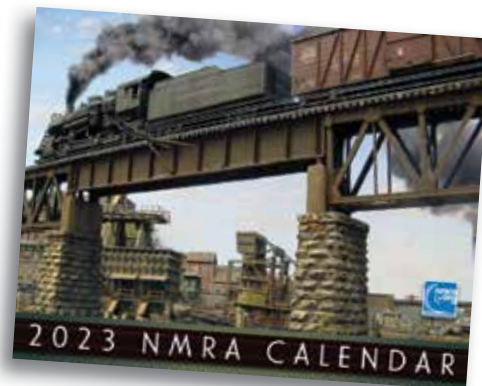
Photos must be submitted by **July 15, 2023** for consideration.

To submit your files go to www.wetransfer.com. If you don't see the "Upload files" box (shown at right) click on the "I just want to send files" link at the bottom of the page.

- 1 Click Upload files. Locate and add your files
- 2 Email to: scwd.email@gmail.com
- 3 Add your email address
- 4 Add the title: 2024 Calendar
- 5 Add your name, address & phone number
- 6 Click the button

You will receive a confirmation email that files uploaded.

Questions? Contact Mike Brestel at 513-481-0185 or mbrestel@zoomtown.com



Photography and HO scale modeling by Richard Walz, Northampton, Massachusetts.

Online File Submission:

- 1 Upload files
- 2 Email to
- 3 Your email
- 4 Title
- 5 Message
- 6

DAN HINEL

EARNs

MASTER MODEL RAILROADER® #700

Like so many model railroaders, I began playing with a Lionel O27 set around the Christmas tree in early childhood. Therefore, I naturally brought out the same set for my children to enjoy. Somehow, I started having more fun than they were, and some people would definitely agree that things got out of hand. So, in the early 1990s, I began a journey that has brought me immense enjoyment and, more importantly, great friendships. While living in Grand Rapids, Michigan, I met many fellow modelers. In addition, I joined the NMRA, North Central Region, NCR Grand Rails Division, and became a Grand Rapids Model Railroad Historical Society member. These friendships have lasted more than 30 years and are still going strong. They have allowed me to gain knowledge about model railroading and start building an ever-expanding operational layout, Rail Xpress Railroad, RxRR.

In 2008, my wife Carmel and I moved to an over-55 community south of Atlanta, Georgia, relocating my RxRR layout. I transferred my NMRA membership to the SER Piedmont Division and instantly felt welcome to the NMRA model railroad community. Once again, I benefited from great friends who helped me begin my journey in the NMRA Achievement Program and, ultimately, Master Model Railroader®. During the next seven years, I earned my Golden Spike, Master Builder–Scenery, Model Railroad Engineer–Electrical, Chief Dispatcher, and Associate Volunteer achievement certificates. Not only did my friends in the Piedmont Division provide great camaraderie and guidance, they also provided muscle to disassemble and prepare for the layout move in 2015 to Indianapolis, Indiana.

Once again I transferred my NMRA membership, this time to the Central Indiana Division (CID) of the Midwest Region. The CID is a beehive of model railroad activity and fellowship. I quickly became involved in the CID board as a Trainmaster. Two years later, I was elected Superintendent, which aided my efforts toward the Official achievement certificate. During this period, I continued the expansion of RxRR and needed some additional



turnouts. Someone suggested I hand-build them using a commercial product as an aid. Thus, I met the requirement for the Civil achievement certificate. I achieved my Motive Power certificate by super-detailing two GP35 locomotives as well as designing and then 3D-resin-printing an EMD RS 1325 locomotive.

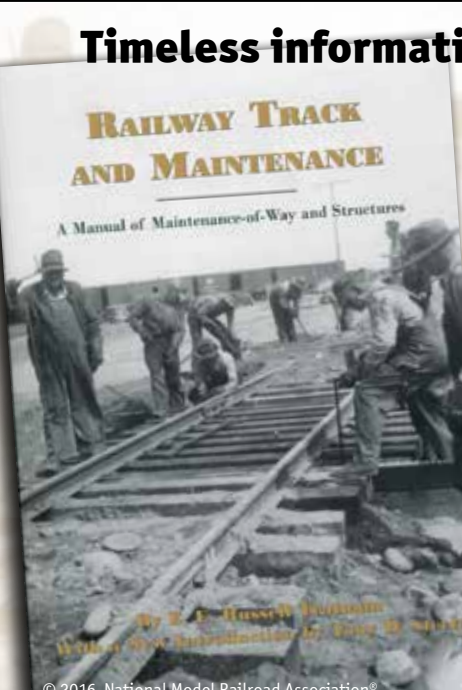
During the last 30 years, I have expanded the RxRR from a 140-square-foot room into a 2,700-square-foot switching belt line railroad, participated in three National NMRA conventions in three different Regions, and hosted more than 315 operating sessions. Now I have achieved Master Model Railroader® with the help of

great friends. As a way to give back to the hobby, I am currently CID AP Chair helping others with the Achievement Program, designing and 3D-resin-printing various items for contests, and continuing operating sessions on the RxRR.

**Certificates Earned
Dan Hinel, MMR® #700**

- Master Builder – Scenery**
- Model Railroad Engineer – Electrical**
- Chief Dispatcher**
- Association Volunteer**
- Association Official**
- Model Railroad Engineer – Civil**
- Master Builder – Motive Power**

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