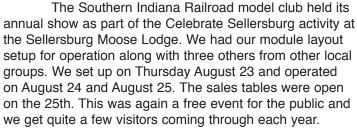
Waybill

Mid West Region NMRA – Winter 2012

President's Report By Bill Litkenhous, President, MWR



My next major activity was my families annual fall get together at a time share resort. We have visited Williamsburg, VA, Nags Head on the Outer Banks of North Carolina and Virginia Beach, Va. This year we journeyed to Atlantic Beach on the eastern coast of North Carolina. We shared two very comfortable units near the Atlantic Ocean. The only problem with these coastal locations is it is difficult to find eating places that are not priced too far out of line. The first night we went to a seafood restaurant that was very good and also quite pricey.

We then went back to our rooms and broke out the jigsaw puzzles and playing cards to start enjoying ourselves. My sisters and I played a lot of card games when we were growing up and we continue the practice when ever we get together now. We also made plans for what activities we were going to do the next several days. One of the most important activities for the next morning was going to be breakfast. We found a nice restaurant nearby with good food and very reasonably priced.

After breakfast we headed to Fort Macon, one of the many forts built along to coast to protect our borders in the early days of our country. One of the signs at the fort that I found interesting was a warning sign "This Fort was built for war, not safety. Please be careful." We left the fort and went to the small community of Bufort to look at old houses and an old a unique cemetery.

We didn't go out for dinner as each of us has a specialty we fix during the week. My specialty is a purchased item, Danish pastries from Plehn's bakery in St. Matthews, KY that we patronized while we lived in that area as youngsters. The bakery always knows when I call in a large order that we are heading for North Carolina for a family gathering.





The next day we went to the first capital of North Carolina, a large brick building that housed the governor and his family in the earlier years of North Carolina. It is a three story building with very ornate trimmings. Next we went back to the housing for our dinner and games. This night my brother-in-law made chili, his specialty and very good at that.

Our third day there turned out to be the most interesting and enjoyable for me We drove to Wilmington to enjoy their attractions. We arrived at their visitor's center and determined which attractions to see. We walked along the river walk to a nice restaurant for lunch. We walked along the Cape Fear River and on the far side of the river is a huge ship, the battleship North Carolina. You can see from my picture the size of the ship considering I was shooting across the river.

Battleship North Carolina viewed from across the Cape Fear River at Wilmington, North Carolina



After Lunch my youngest sister and her husband and two grandsons headed for the battleship. The older of my two sisters picked me up at the restaurant and took me to the Wilmington Railroad museum while they went and toured old houses.

The railroad museum is located in an old freight house that was built by the Atlantic Coast Line railroad. The museum group has done an outstanding job with the facility. Inside there are several rooms of artifacts and photos and several model railroad layouts. Continued page 9

The WAYBILL

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CONTRIBUTIONS

Articles, photographs and artwork are encouraged in either hardcopy or electronic form. The editor uses Quark 4.1 as his publishing software on a Mac. Word documents are also acceptable, but please send the photographs as an attachment. Copy is due by the 10th of February, May, August and November and should be sent to the editor at the above address. Submitted material will be returned upon request.

ADVERTISING

Deadlines for camera ready adds are the same as for the copy deadlines. Please submit by email to the editor as a TIF or .jpeg. We accept only railroad related adds. Advertising rates are:

	yearly	or	per i	ssue
Full page	\$1	00	\$35	
Half page	-	75	25	
Quarter page)	50	20	
Business car	d 2	25	15	

Please send payment to Bryan Lemonds 6325 Bent Pine Drive Bloomington, IN 47408 (812) 334-8841 Bklemonds@att.net

Editor's Column

Fall is here and with it the start of model railroad shows. For me the kickoff was the Naperville RPM meet. This is a great time to not only meet new people, but renew old acquaintances. I have been a speaker since 2004, so have met many people through my talks. What I especially look forward to is the interaction with my audience. With a knowledgeable group like that, it is not uncommon for me to learn more about my topic than when I started.

Trainfest was another hit this year. From what I heard, the attendance hit another record. From the number of people crowding the aisles, it was not hard to imagine. Even though I have been going for at least 20 years, it is always fun. Lots of new things to learn and people to speak with.

One of my interests is the pickle industry. I have been researching it for many years and have given talks on it to a number of different organizations. My goal is to write a book about it some day, concentrating on the business in the upper Midwest, basically the area covered by the Waybill. I have a number of histories of local companies written, from start to when they were bought out by a larger concern and consolidated with was usually the case.

The earliest company that I have traced is the Squire Dingee Company of Chicago. It later became Ma Brown, then Beatrice Foods. It began in 1856, which was before the start of the Civil war and only 8 years after the first railroad was built from Chicago. Of course all finished product was shipped out by rail.

After the Chicago fire, McHenry County, northwest of Chicago, gained prominence as a pickle growing and salting center, second only to Cook County and Chicago, who by this time was the leading pickle manufacturing area of the country. Heinz-Noble, a foreunner of the HJ Heinz Company leased a pickle plant in Woodstock about this time. Unfortunately Heinz-Noble failed shortly after, leaving a sour taste for the farmers who had invested money in the plant, and had supplied it with cucumbers.

Henry J Heinz would join with his brother and return to Crystal Lake a few years later to contract for cucumbers, but raised the wrath of the farmers by paying them less than the other companies were paying.

This was way before wooden pickle cars were invented to carry the salted stock to the finishing plants. Everything was handled in large barrels loaded into boxcars.

I could continue, but I have a favor to ask. I am looking for back issues of Pickles in Miniature, the NMRA SIG began in the summer of 1984 by Bill Dippert. I have contacted Bill, but he sent all his issues to the NMRA, and I believe they only kept one of each.

If anyone out there has issues that they would like to give, sell or allow me to copy, I would appreciate it. I already have volumes 1, 2 and 3 thanks to Ron Christensen who graciously gave them to me. My address is at the top of the page under editor

This issue has more pages than usual because it is the annual election issue. Please take a few moments to fill out the ballot on page 7 and return it to Don Cook. Remember, the region and division officers are all volunteers and it is nice to show them support for their commitment.

Next Board Meeting

Marriott Hotel Indianapolis, Indiana

May 5, 2013; 9:00 am

Make plans now to attend the spring region convention in Indianapolis. Full details are on pages 9-11.

Region News

ELECTIONS

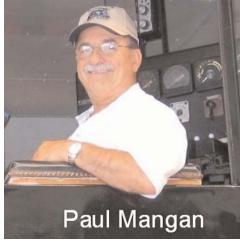
Once again it is time to elect a President, Vice President and three Directors-at-large. The candidate biographies follow, and they have assured me that they will not have any one calling your house to solicit votes and no Super-pacs will be airing attack adds on TV. Please vote, even if they are running unopposed, as your vote indicates your support.

Paul Magnan President MWR

Since my childhood days watching the Boston and Maine in Massachusetts and my move to Wisconsin with the USAF in the 60's I have loved trains. My activity in the hobby began growing in the late 80's and in the 90's became an NMRA/SCWD member. I chose to model the Boston and Albany RR and joined the Madison HoTrak modular group which can be found setting up at train shows in the Midwest. I opened my layout and volunteered at the Lake Junction NMRA convention in 97 where I got

my taste for National conventions.

Due to remodeling the basement my B&A had to come down. With hopes of a rebirth, the B&A is still in the shops while I have moved my trains to the yard (garden). At NMRA conventions, I was introduced to the



world of Garden Railroading and in doing so became a member of the Wisconsin Garden Railway Association. This is another venue to promote the NMRA while meeting more train lovers.

In 2007 I was elected to Superintendent of the South Central Wisconsin Division and served 4 terms. I served as the Chairman of the Badgerland Express 2011 Midwest Region Convention. I have also been working with the Mad City Model Railroad Show and Sale committee as the volunteer coordinator for the past 3 years.

Currently I am finishing my final term as Midwest Region Vice-President. I have enjoyed serving the Region and if elected as President would be proud to represent the Region again.

Thank You Paul

Mike Yurkic Vice President MWR

It is with this letter I most humbly express my sincere interest being nominated for the position of Vice President of the Midwest Region of the NMRA. I currently reside in Sherman, Illinois (Springfield suburb) with my wife and son and where I am the Midwest Regional Manager for Harrison Hydra-Gen, a large hydraulic generator company based in Houston, Texas.

I have been an avid rail fan and modeler since my teen years. I spent my youth in Freeburg, Illinois not far from the real Peabody Short Line and River King Mine. That influence is why I model the Illinois Central's St. Louis Division from East St. Louis to DuQuoin, Illinois in HO scale. It is the same route that ran right through my town, not more than 1.5 blocks from my boyhood home. I created a Yahoo Group for the Prairie Belt Railroad to help bring more ICRR modelers together. My goal is to use this model railroad and experience to acquire my MMR.

I have been a member of the NMRA and two MR clubs for a number of years. I am currently the District 5 Trainmaster for the Illinois Valley Division and the President of the Springfield Model Railroad Club. Most recently, I had the privilege of being the Chairman of the Railsplitter 2012 MWR Convention Committee. It is where I



met many of our members and our vision of coordinating a great experience was made possible through our combined efforts.

I am seeking the office of Vice President not to be another "one of the good ol' boys". I am not someone who will just "occupy" the office. Rather, I will

take a more hands on and personal approach to promoting the NMRA and model railroading in the Midwest Region. My goal is to meet with every division at least once in my term and be your eyes, ears, and voice at region level. It is the experience of learning from our fellow modelers that is the best motivation to be an officer for the region. It is my belief that active leaders bring on and encourage active members. I also support the NMRA's National Board of Directors endorsement of the Michiana's Division's approach to training and education and the formation of the School of Model Railroading. This is a golden opportunity for the region and we need to give it 100% support to build on its success and to set the standard for the rest of the NMRA.

I firmly believe in the "do it right the first time and you'll always be satisfied" approach.

Thank you and I appreciate your support.

Jim Allen

Director-at-Large (Incumbent)

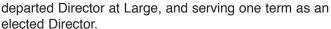
I have been involved in model railroading on and off for more than 50 years. It started with a battery operated tinplate set, progressed to American Flyer and settled with HO with a dabbling in On3 and G.

My career path as an Industrial Designer has allowed me to not only work in corporate and consulting offices but to also run my own freelance business. I have been involved in the designs of everything from small consumer products to heavy earth moving equipment. As a freelance designer I have been able to combine my passions for design and model railroading. Alco Models, McKeen Models, Overland, Walthers, Circuitron, Magnuson Models, and GCLaser are just a few of the companies in the Model Railroad Industry that I have done design, drafting, pattern work, model building.and diorama design and construction.

As a NMRA member I have participated in and

placed in a number of National and Regional Convention model contests. I have achieved an AP Certificate for Model Railroad Author and Master Builder Motive Power. Articles that I have authored have appeared in Model Railroader, Railroad Model Craftsman and Mainline Modeler.

I have now completed over 3 years as Director at Large, having taken over the remainder of a term from a



What is important to me as a Director is to promote the NMRA and build membership. In an attempt to accomplish this goal the Fox Valley Division in cooperation with the Du Page Division have been manning a NMRA membership table at the monthly Du Page Train Show with my Action/Reaction HO layout and our commercial display. We have been able to draw enough attention to generate new interest in the NMRA, especially among the younger modelers. I will continue this effort especially with the 20 thru 40 year old age group who will be the future of the NMRA.

David J. Leider MMR

Director-at-Large (Incumbent)

I live in Prospect Heights Illinois and have been a member of the NMRA since 1995, getting my MMR in 2007. I have been a trainmaster for the Fox Valley division for 8 years in charge of clinics. As such, I believe in providing interesting and informative clinics to keep a high level of interest at the monthly meetings.

I model in HO and am working on a depiction of Waupaca Wisconsin as it existed in 1947. I enjoy research and have written several books and numerous articles for the Soo Line magazine about various subjects. I have also written articles for all the model railroad publications and had my layout featured in Model



Railroader. I enjoy giving clinics and talks and have been a presenter at Naperville for the Prototype Modelers for a number of years as well as several divisions of the NMRA.

I am editor of the Midwest Region's Waybill and President of the Soo Line Historical and Technical Society. I am also a member of the Chicago and Northwestern and Shoreline Historical Societies, The Railway and Locomotive Historical Society and the Lexington Group. When not chasing trains I like to garden. I am married to my wife Audrone and have a stepson.

Linda Sukup Director-at large

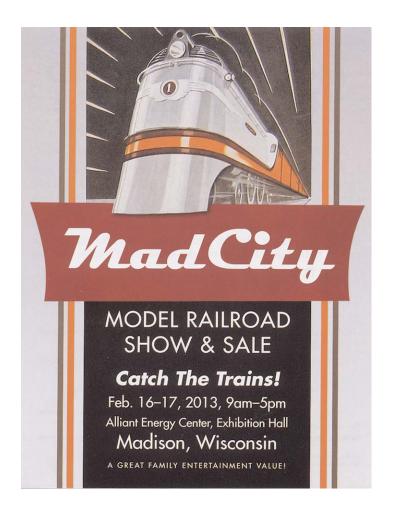
My name is Linda Sukup and I am running for Director At Large for Midwest Regional. I have been involved in the modeling hobby since my college days. I have been the National President, National Vice-President, and National Secretary of the Milwaukee Road Historical Association along with being the Wisconsin Division Superintendent. I am past superintendent of the WISE Division. I have been actively involved with Trainfest for many years as a Trainfest Board of Director and currently I am the Ticket

Coordinator. I worked for the National Convention in Milwaukee manning the Information Booth and worked for the National Train Show working the NMRA Booth. I worked on and helped present the Handbook in



Milwaukee last year at the National Convention.

In my other life, I am an educator. I believe in our children and believe if we bring hands-on interactive rail-roading to our children, the hobby will go on. I am very excited for this opportunity to serve the NMRA in a different capacity.



The 46th Annual Mad City

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Alliant Energy Center, Exhibition Hall, Madison, WI

IT'S HUGE! 90,000 sq. ft. of the Midwest's biggest and most beautiful model train layouts in Z, N, HO, S, O and G scale; classic toy trains; historical exhibits & railroad videos. Kids can build a giant wooden train layout or run a model train. Browse 300+ tables of model train merchandise: tools, railroad collectibles, videos, books, clothing and artwork. Hourly door prizes. Kids, age 5-11, can register to win an HO scale train set.

FOUR TRAIN SETS GIVEN AWAY EACH DAY OF THE EVENT!

Adults \$11 (12 & older), Seniors \$10 (65 & older) Children \$5 (age 5-11), Kids under 5 FREE

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\$1 off advanced sale tickets—available at local hobby shops—see Web site for locations



Next Board Meeting

Marriott Hotel Indianapolis, Indiana

May 5, 2013; 9:00 am

Annual Meeting of Members

Marriott Hotel Indianapolis, Indiana

9:00 pm, Saturday, May 4, 2013







The **NEW** Shop in the **OLD** Depot

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Admission—Cash Only Adults/Teens (13 & older)-\$9, Seniors (65 & over)-\$7 Kids (5 thru 12)-\$2, Kids under 5 are FREE



The 35th Annual High Wheeler Train Show Sponsored by The Fox Valley Division of the National Model Railroad Association www.foxvalleydivision.org



Midwest Region 2013 Ballot

(This ballot is for use only by <u>resident</u> members of the Midwest Region)

Pr	esident (\	/ote for/Check One)
[]	Paul Mangan
[1	Write-In
Vio	ce Presid	ent (Vote for/Check One)
[1	Mike Yurgec
[1	Write-In
Di	rector-At-	Large (Vote for/Check Three)
[1	Jim Allen (Incumbent)
[1	Linda Sukup
[1	David Leider (Incumbent)
[]	Write-In
[]	Write-In
[]	Write-In
То	validate y	our ballot, please print your:
Na	ıme	
ΝN	/IRA No.*	
Div	ision	or Division Code* 28 /
* F	rom your	membership card.
lf y	ou do not	provide the above information, your ballot will not be counted.

Waybill Winter 2012 page 7

Return to Midwest Region Election Committee,

c/o Don Cook, 2500 Tenth St, Waukegan, IL 60085-7050.

Your ballot must be received no later than Thursday, January 31, 2013.

President's letter Continued

After you pay your admission fee you are directed to several rooms were the train layouts were located. The first one I went to was a Lionel style layout that was well done with lots of scenery and buildings. They has it set up for operation that was started by pushing buttons strategically located along the sides of the layout.

From there I went further into the museum to see their HO layout. It was quite extensive with the push button

An HO model train layout featuring trains from the Atlantic Coast Line, and Seabord Air Line Railroads. The layout could be operated from push buttons located along the side of the layout.



operation to start it. It featured Atlantic Coast Line and Seaboard Air Line Railroads.

After I had overstayed my welcome- they closed up on me – I had to leave. Outside were more exhibits, Including a R F & P box car, an Atlantic Coast Line caboose, miscellaneous hardware items and a real jewel. There was a handsome Atlantic Coast Line ten wheeler. The museum was well worth the trip.

The rest of the week consisted of trips to the ocean to get beat up by the waves and a general good time.

As I am writing this letter I have just returned from the Salem Railroad Depot Museum after working the Christmas Open House. We had Jim Smoak and the L.A. Honeydippers as entertainment. Jim and the group do an outstanding Job with the music and it does include a fair amount of railroad themed music.

A handsome Atlantic Coaast Line Ten Wheeler No. 250 on display at the Wilmington North carollina Railroad Meseum



Midwest Region Achievement Program Report by Marvin Preussler MMR

- MWR AP Manager

I am happy to report that there has been some activity from our members. Members continue to take part in the Achievement Program all over the Midwest Region. It is always fun to help answer questions and to guide our members in the AP. Take a look at the following:

The following members received AP Certificates:

Paul WussowGlen Ellyn, ILCivilFred HenizeChannahon, ILSceneryBarbara RothwellPortage, WIStructuresBill DrzalWest Chicago, ILVolunteer

With the fall here, there will probably be more activity in the AP than these past few months. So get going on those modeling projects and take a look at the NMRA website, to see what you may qualify for and set a goal.

As always, work with your division Achievement Program Manager first, and if there is a problem, feel free to contact me. Thanks!

Director-At-Large Survey

by M. David Johnson

In the Summer 2012 issue of the Waybill, I asked three questions (and received 11 responses):

Question 1. What are your ideas for programs and events which will draw us together without costing an arm and a leg? Jim Osborn of the Fox Valley Division has suggested the idea of holding a one-day mini-con instead of the traditional 3-day convention. How do you feel about that?

Representative Responses:

We should not make the Region convention into a Division meet. We should keep the 2-1/2 day format. Cost and travel for a convention, especially one that is on the rim of the MWR makes it tough. Also, the average 70 year old isn't too keen on driving expressways, interstates, or at night. My suggestion for the region would be to look first for an adequate hall or facility and let the members find their own room. You'd be surprised how many people could care less where they sleep!

Sometimes the old ways have to change. There are ways like a three way meet (like the one in Madison in May) to mix with other divisions. To me it already is a one day convention with the main stuff happening on Saturday and Friday is optional. I don't know how much time could be cut out of an already short schedule. Yes, a shorter convention will likely draw larger attendance, but gas cost is likely the same for most for either a 1 or 3-day convention. Given the size of MWR, it may make more sense to do a 2-day convention as another option, Continued on page 12

MILEPOST 50 / Midwest Regional Convention Registration Form



PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT!

Name:		NMF	RA #:
Mailing (Street) Address:		Divis	ion:
		NMF	RA Region:
City:	State:		Zip:
Names Of Companion / Family Member(s):			
030 040 V4 200 84		0:	
E-Mail Address:		Interested	d In Ops Sessions?:
Special Considerations:			
Tours: Free "drive-it-yourself" tours are available for	registered o	conference	attendees, departing from
the Marriott hotel on Thursday @ 9:00AM to visit th	e Indiana Ra	il Road con	nplex, and on Saturday @
8:00AM to visit the AMTRAK Beech Grove Shops. M	eet at the M	larriott a bi	t early to get your credentials
and to form car-pools. Note: Only 40 participants ar	e allowed in	to each ver	nue. List the # of tickets you
would like to request for MP 50 tours: Thursda	ay - Indiana I	RR	Saturday - AMTRAK
Full Fare / NMRA Member: \$80.00 for pre-registered NMR	RA members;	\$95.00 after	April 2, 2013
Full Fare / Non-NMRA Member: \$90.00 for pre-registered	participants;	\$105.00 afte	er April 2, 2013
Weekend Fare / NMRA Member: \$60.00 for pre-registered	d NMRA mem	bers; \$75.00	after April 2, 2013
Weekend Fare / Non-NMRA Member: \$70.00 for pre-regis			~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~
Companion / Spouse / Family Members: A single fee of \$2	5.00 for one o	or all family	members including companion
A separate banquet ticket (for Saturday evening's meal /	proaram) is re	equired for e	ach participant @ \$25.00 each*

Registration Fees For MILEPOST 50 Program Participants

Fees On or Before April 2, 2013	MP 50 Fees A	Sub-Total	
Full Fare (NMRA Member) x \$80.00	Full Fare (NMRA Mer	\$	
Full Fare (Non-NMRA Member) x \$90.00	Full Fare (Non-NMRA	Member) x \$105.00	\$
Weekend Fare (NMRA Member) x \$60.00	Weekend Fare (NMR	A Member) x \$75.00	\$
Weekend Fare (Non-Member) x \$70.00	Weekend Fare (Non-	\$	
Companion / Family Members x \$25.00 Companion / Family Me		Members x \$25.00	\$
Banquet Tickets For Sat. PM* x \$25.00	Banquet Tickets for S	at. PM* x \$25.00	\$
* Featured Speaker: Indiana Rail Road CEO Thoma	Hoback Total Sub	mitted To CID/NMRA: \$	i.

Make checks payable to Central Indiana Division NMRA & mail to: MILEPOST 50
(Please do not staple checks to registration forms!) Richard Seym

Richard Seymour, Registrar 8504 West Thorn Tree Muncie, IN 47304-8701

Housing Information For MILEPOST 50

Headquarters Hotel Additional Housing Adjacent To The Marriott East

Indianapolis Marriott East # Fairfield Inn & Suites / Indy East # La Quinta Inn & Suites # 7202 East 21st Street 7110 East 21st Street 7304 East 21st Street Indianapolis, IN 46219 Indianapolis, IN 46219 Indianapolis, IN 46219 Phone 317-322-0101 Phone 317-352-1231 Phone 317-359-1021 Rate: \$94.00 per night Rate: \$114.00 per night Rate: \$74.00 per night IndianapolisMarriottEast.com

Free Parking At All Three Locations Hotel Reservations Required By Tuesday, April 2, 2013 #For all housing arrangements, please use the code "MILEPOST 50" when making reservations!

Midwest Regional Convention Packages Fares For MILEPOST 50



MILEPOST 50 - 2013 Annual Midwest Regional Convention Events & Description Of Fees	Before or On April 2, 2013	April 3, 2013 & After
Full Fare, for NMRA members, includes the following Registration packet with name badge, handouts, and official program Access to all clinics, contest rooms, displays, etc. Thursday through Sunday Layout tour booklet One ticket (and early access) to the Train Show at the Marriott on May 5th	\$80.00	\$95.00
Full Fare, for non-NMRA members, includes the following Registration packet with name badge, handouts, and official program Access to all clinics, contest rooms, displays, etc. Thursday through Sunday Layout tour booklet One ticket (and early access) to the Train Show at the Marriott on May 5th Note: This fee does not enroll the MP 50 participant in the NMRA	\$90.00	\$105.00
Weekend Fare, for NMRA members, includes the following Registration packet with name badge, handouts, and official program Access to clinics, contest rooms, and displays on Saturday & Sunday Layout tour booklet One ticket (and early access) to the Train Show at the Marriott on May 5th	\$60.00	\$75.00
Weekend Fare, for non-NMRA members, includes the following Registration packet with name badge, handouts, and official program Access to clinics, contest rooms, and displays on Saturday & Sunday Layout tour booklet One ticket (and early access) to the Train Show at the Marriott on May 5th Note: This fee does not enroll the MP 50 participant in the NMRA	\$70.00	\$85.00
Spouse / Companion / Family Fare includes the following Note: This one-time fee of \$25.00 covers all immediate family members such as a spouse (companion) and children; the Family Fare must be purchased in conjunction with a Full or Weekend Fare! Full access to clinics, contest rooms, and tours on the MP 50 program Fee does include ticket(s) to the Train Show for each registered party	\$25.00 ONE TIME FEE	\$25.00 ONE TIME FEE
Banquet tickets for the Saturday evening meal and program Individual tickets are required for the meal and featured presentation by Indiana Rail Road CEO Mr. Thomas Hoback. Availability of banquet tickets might be limited for late registrants; purchase tickets as early as possible.	\$25.00 PER TICKET	\$25.00 PER TICKET
Tours to Indiana Rail Road (Thursday) and AMTRAK (Saturday) Drive-it-yourself tours have been arranged to area RR attractions. Reserve space for each tour via the registration form; limited to the first 40 only. Note: Only registered MP 50 attendees may participate in these tours.	FREE	FREE

No cash! Make checks payable to: **Central Indiana Division NMRA** Mail to: (Please do not staple checks to registration forms!)

MILEPOST 50 Richard Seymour, Registrar 8504 West Thorn Tree Muncie, IN 47304-8701 The Central Indiana Division Presents

MILEPOST 50





Indianapolis, Indiana



Layout Tours • Operating Sessions • Clinics • Contests • Displays Banquet • Women's Program • Sunday Train Show

Banquet Keynote Speaker

Thomas Hoback

President & CEO The Indiana Rail Road Company



Fantastic Clinics...

Rich Bourgerie - Buildings: scratch building and detailing
Ron King - Scenery

Jim Six - Photo backdrops Using Photoshop Elements

Mont Switzer - Favorite Highway Vehicle Projects

Plus many more educational clinics by local and regional modelers.

Women's Program

Welcome Event Thursday Evening
Presentations include:
Raptor Birds, Court Therapy Dogs,
Gardening, Marriott Hotel Chef

and a Dietitian.

Friday Evening Bingo
Chair Massages, Craft project,
Maps to shopping and attractions will
be available.

Layout Tours and Operating Sessions

Over 20 layouts will be open!





Operating
Sessions
Thursday
And
Friday.

Registration is just \$80 for NMRA Members on or before April 2, 2013.

See the CID Website for more information.

http://cid.railfan.net

Registration form on back side of this flyer.



Convention Hotel

Narriott.

INDIANAPOLIS EAST

Celebrating 50 Years



Use code MILEPOST 50 when making your reservation at any of these hotels

Dave Johnson continued

which would cut lodging costs in half for many attendees, but still make a longer travel distance worthwhile.

I believe that a one day convention sounds good to the local/host group. People traveling more than two hours driving, will probably still want to stay overnight. If the convention starts at 9:00, a two hour drive plus getting ready would mean getting up at probably 5:00. If you stay for evening activities which probably end somewhere between 8:00 and 10:00, you are looking at the two hour drive plus being tired from getting up early and you would get home after midnight, that's a long day. With the average age of the members being over 60 this also will have an effect on attendees. With that said, if you decide to stay overnight there should be something to do Friday and possibly on Sunday, this gets us back to the old format: A convention starting Friday afternoon/evening and running into Sunday; on Friday evening, operating sessions and clinics. Layout tours could be on either/both Saturday afternoon and Sunday morning and afternoon.

I would hate to see MWR convention go to a one day format. We have a region which is relatively large geographically so driving to a convention can easily take half a day or longer for some members. If we are to appeal to members who are not retired, we have to expect that many of them cannot head for convention before Friday night, and will need to head back home after lunch Sunday or by mid-afternoon. I think Friday activities should still not convene any earlier than afternoon even for those who are retired. Above all, every attempt should be made to reduce costs so the registration and lodging costs are not the main factor for deciding whether or not to attend a convention.

I have pondered the 3-day vs. the 1-day mini con and I still come down on the side of the 3-day event. The reason being if we want to include the people on the edges of the region it will still take long driving hours for these folks to get there if they are coming from the lower part of Indiana to Northern Wisconsin. Even if you have the mini con in the middle (Chicago area) it can still be a long haul. These folks would have to drive in the night before and stay overnight as to not miss anything in the morning + a long drive home and again another night in a motel.

I think the region should be more involved in helping the divisions with the conventions and not just awarding them the convention and put them on their own. The divisions will still have final say in the end, of course, but advice can be helpful. We also need to sell the conventions. A region Board or Committee member should attend division meets to do just that to show the value in attending these events. I think I would rather see the main focus placed on Value for the dollar spent as a way of increasing attendance.

Ironically, our board discussions have circled back to the Friday night, Saturday and Sunday MWR convention

format. We will try to locate the event at a banquet hall or something like that (such as the CNW Historical Society does in Batavia) – nothing fancy – no specific hotel, just a good space to control costs. Modeling with the Masters: Hard to figure out how to organize this. National had some clinics that were limited in attendance at the last conventions. They were always sold out. Maybe we need to do more at the local level? Pay \$30-\$40 and build a building, circuit, etc. with a master and take it home.

I believe the role of the region should be one of assistance and facilitator. Not necessarily doer for the divisions. We should have frameworks for the divisions to build off of; Central Services in some cases - Web site, convention knowhow and data.

A one day event might be difficult for those that have to travel a long way - two days would be better for most folks.

Conclusion: The Fox Valley Division has decided to continue with the 3-day convention for 2014, but will be actively exploring ways to hold the costs down for the benefit of those who will be attending.

National News

Welcome to the mid-November NMRA InfoNet News!

John Stevens, the NMRA Secretary, has announced the slate of candidates for the 2013 National elections. Ballots will be in NMRA members' hands early next year. Candidates are:

At-Large Worldwide Director:

- Stan Ames
- Mike Brestel
- Larry Smith, MMR
- Leslie Eaton, MMR

Atlantic District Director:

- Alain Kap
- Kathy Millatt

Western District Director

- Larry Alfred, MMR
- Jack Hamilton, MMR

In keeping with his policy of not letting anyone volunteer do more than his/her fair share of work, President Charlie Getz has named Jim Lupfer head of the Convention and Trade Show Department, replacing Bob Amsler, who remains as NMRA Counsel.

Speaking of President Getz, an interview with him is featured on the current episode of "The Model Railway Show" podcast. Jim Martin talks with Charlie about his plans for the NMRA. To listen, visit www.themodelrailwayshow.com, or download Episode 44 on iTunes (or any number of other podcast downloaders). All show episodes

are archived at the TrainLife website, so even if you miss it now, you can always listen to it at a later date. In two weeks Charlie will return to the podcast to talk about "The Magic of Scale Model Railroading" exhibit at the California State Railroad Museum.

Western Director Jack Hamilton and his committee are working on a new Long Range Plan for the NMRA. Jack is still looking for input from members, and writes, "The October edition of NMRA Magazine put out a general call ("NMRA - Where do the tracks lead?") to members for input for NMRA strategic planning. There have been a number of excellent responses to the call but not nearly in the numbers that might be suggested by the normal level of grousing and gripes about the organization. This is your opportunity to make a difference and have some direct say in the direction the NMRA takes into our future. This is your organization and your ideas and input will be treated with equal value and respect. Please read the October article and make your desires known to Western District Director Jack Hamilton at westdir@hq.nmra.org or mail them directly to Jack at 10731 Warren Road NW, Silverdale, WA 98383."

Allen Pollock, Museum Committee Chairman. would like to put the word out about fundraising efforts for the California State Railroad Museum's "Magic of Scale Model Railroading" Gallery Project. Allen writes, "You've read the article by President Getz in the November NMRA Magazine about the Gallery project. I'm asking for your help. We're close to making it happen, so please discuss the idea of making a donation with your Region or Division Boards. If all participate, we'll be successful in raising the \$250,000 we need by early next year to receive the matching grant. Right now we already have \$160,000 of the needed funding. If you have any questions or need additional info about this unprecedented chance to spread the word about our hobby, contact me directly at 573-619-8532 begin of the skype highlighting FREE 573-619-8532 end_of_the_skype_highlighting."

From Vice President of Special Projects, Bill Kaufman: "Sometime in February, the NMRA national is going to try to start sending out an electronic Bulletin. It will be filled calendars, Divisional success stories and the like. Sent out every two months, it is not intended to replace NMRA Magazine, but to be a collection of teasers with links to info. We hope people will like it. One key to its success is email addresses. We currently have emails for

about 75% of our members but more is better and some of what we have are not right. Please remind your Region and Division members for their correct email addresses and forward them to HQ."

Brett Lambert has left the Kalmbach Memorial Library to pursue other career interests. We wish him the best and thank him for his many years of service. In his absence, requests will be handled by the HQ staff.

The Standards and Conformance Committee has been working with Bachmann and Soundtraxx to be sure both companies are in conformance to NMRA standards for DCC decoders. In the past there have been some concerns about each company's wiring harnesses not meeting proper specs.

The Winter Board of Directors Meeting will be held in Atlanta, Georgia, on February 8-10. All NMRA members are welcome to attend. Times and location will be announced later.

If you have any questions or comments about any of the above, please send them directly to a Director or Officer. You'll find those addresses at www.nmra.org or in NMRA Magazine.

-Gerry Leone, MMR NMRA Communications Director

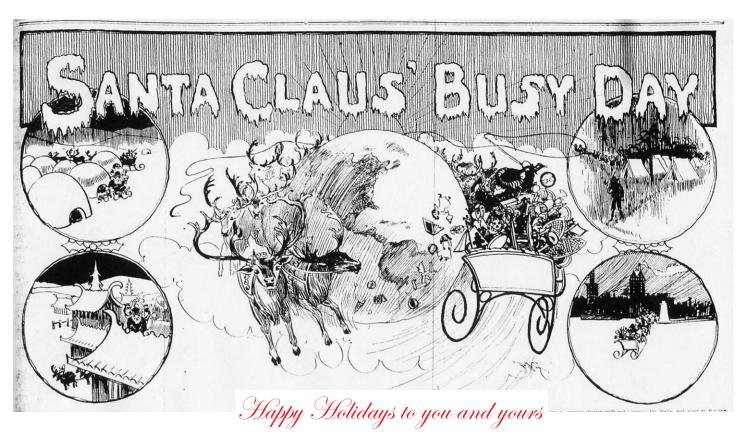
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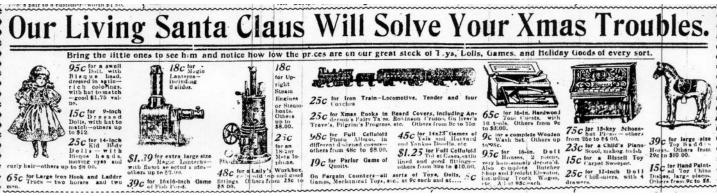
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