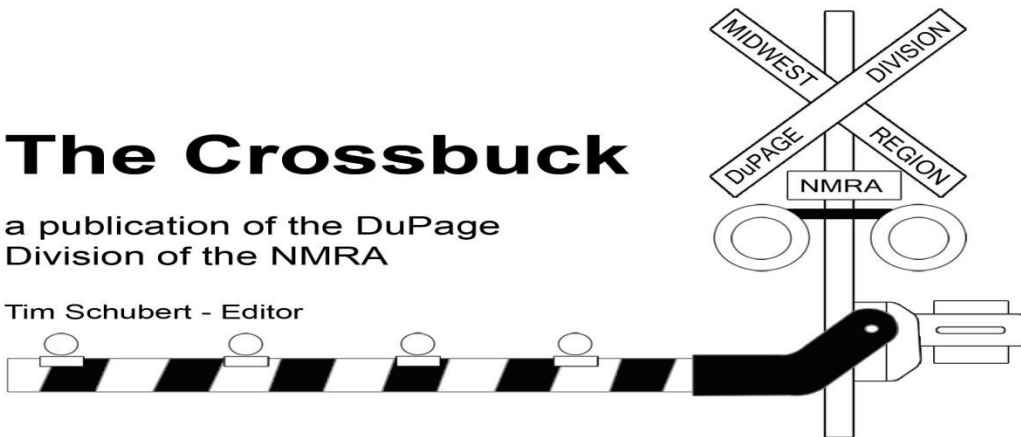


# The Crossbuck

a publication of the DuPage  
Division of the NMRA

Tim Schubert - Editor



## Fall - Winter 2014 Edition

### A MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

By Alan Basic – Superintendent

Welcome to the 2014-15 season of the DuPage Division of the National Model Railroad Association. I hope you had a terrific summer and are ready for a very good season of DuPage Division meetings and special events. The Board of Directors has been busy planning a full year of interesting activities. Check the “Meeting Dates and Programs” in this edition of the Crossbuck to see the interesting programs for our monthly meetings. See the Contest Schedule that Charlie Lewis has put together and perhaps you can bring something to a contest and win \$10 for a first place popular vote.

The Division is running a bus trip to Trainfest in Milwaukee on November 8. If it is successful, there might be other outings we could plan. The cost will be \$35 per person for the bus ride. Admission to Trainfest will be on your own because of the wide variety of prices based on different

discount coupons. Contact Alan Basic (630-789-3628) to register and pay for the bus ride. Or come to the next meeting and register in person. THIS TRIP IS ONLY OPEN TO CURRENT DUES PAID MEMBERS. First come, first served as we have a 24 person coach.

The Division will have a Kitbash-a-Kit Contest at the February 1<sup>st</sup> meeting. The BOD has picked out kits in N, HO, and O scale for members to work on. Sign up at the October meeting to purchase a kit so you can participate.

The Division will have a February Saturday seminar “Model Railroading 101” to teach novice model railroaders how to build a model railroad in N scale. Look for details at future meetings.

See you all at the next meeting!

### MEETING LOCATION FOR 2014-15

The Division meetings will be held at:

**St. Paul's United Church of Christ**  
**5729 Dunham Road**  
**Downers Grove, IL 60516**

The church is at the intersection of Dunham and Jefferson. There is plenty of parking and it is ADA accessible. Nearest major intersections:

North – 55<sup>th</sup> Street/Maple & Dunham  
South – 63<sup>rd</sup> Street & Dunham

### **WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!**

By Ron Scharping – Membership Chairman

The following named individuals joined the NMRA and the DuPage Division since January 1, 2014. Welcome! Come to a meeting and say Hi.

Lawrence Bennett – Plainfield, IL  
John Chlebek – Berwyn, IL  
Edward Dolezal – Yorkville, IL  
Clifford Egel – La Grange, IL  
Charles Foster – Oak Forest, IL  
Raymond Gerlich – Woodridge, IL  
Jim Kent – Oak Forest, IL  
Michael Koch – Justice, IL  
John Krazinski – Naperville, IL  
Thom Miecznikowski – South Holland, IL  
Bill Peifer – Oak Lawn, IL  
James Smith – West Chicago, IL  
Edward Zabelka – Justice, IL

\*\*\*\*\*

Save a tree – Use less paper  
Would you like to receive DuPage Division meeting announcements and newsletters via email? If so, and you have not previously provided your email address to the NMRA, send an email to [dupagedivnmra@gmail.com](mailto:dupagedivnmra@gmail.com) with a subject line of Newsletter.

### **2014-15 MEETING SCHEDULE**

All meetings start at 1:30 pm at St. Paul's unless noted otherwise

#### **September 7, 2014**

*Program: Minneapolis & Rainy River Railroad* by Tim Schubert  
*Contest: Favorite Diesel Locomotives in Multiple Unit Combinations*

#### **October 5, 2014**

*Program: Painting Backdrops* by Linda Henize  
*Contest: Favorite Fallen Flag Railroads*

***Start of the Kitbash a Kit Contest*** – Pick up or order your kit at this meeting –  
*Contest is held during the February 2015 meeting*

#### **November 2, 2014**

*Program: Odd & Ends in Model Railroading* by Ingrid Drozdek  
*Contest: Alpha and Omega of Railroading in celebration of National Model Railroading Month – Your favorite locomotive and end of train device/equipment*

#### **November 8, 2014**

***Division Trip to Trainfest.*** Contact Alan Busic to sign up and pay for bus fare. Only \$35 per NMRA member (Gas, parking and wear and tear on your car will cost you more...).

#### **December 7, 2014**

*Program: Annual Division Christmas Party with a presentation on the Midwest Region* by Paul Wussow.  
*Contest: Annual Holiday Photo Contest Spectacular*

#### **January 4, 2015**

*Program: Not Your Normal Look at the C&NW* by Dave Phillips  
*Contest: Special Use Stuff – MOW, unique freight or passenger cars – anything you do not see everyday*

#### **February 1, 2015**

*Program: Show and Tell* – Come talk about your latest model railroad project, find or discovery.  
*Contest: Results of the Kitbash a Kit contest (get your kit at the October 2014 meeting)*

## February TBA, 2015

1 to 5 pm

**Model Railroadng 101** – Learn the Basics of Layout Construction. Presentation is at St. Paul's UCC in Downers Grove.

**Note:** *This is a class intended for non-NMRA members. If you would like to volunteer to help present this class (and help is always appreciated), contact Alan Busic. If you have friends that would like to take this class, please see the signup sheet at the Division website or stop by Timberline Trains in Downers Grove*

## March 1, 2015

**Program: To Be Determined** – Contact Alan or Fred to volunteer!

**Contest:** Annual All NMRA Categories Model Contest

**March TBA, 2015 – The All American Railroad Show** at Lyons Township High School – 34th Annual

## April 12, 2015

**Program: Division Layout Tours** – Show off your work from the past winter! Contact Alan or Fred if you would like to present your layout.

**Contest:** None

## May 3, 2015

**Program: To Be Determined** – Contact Alan or Fred to volunteer!

**Contest:** Passenger Cars – All eras, all types

## June TBA, 2015

Division outing to a model railroad or railroad related facility

\*Note: Dates may be subject to change. See Division website for the most current information.

## DIVISION OFFICERS FOR 2014-15

Superintendent – Alan Busic	Expires 5/31/15
Asst. Super. – Fred Henize	Expires 5/31/15
Chief Clerk – Alex Schneider	Expires 5/31/16
Paymaster – Richard Strebendt	Expires 5/31/16

## Trainmasters (All terms expire 5/31/15)

**Crossbuck Editor** – Tim Schubert

**All American Railroad Show Chairman** – Patrick Golden

**Membership Chairman** – Ron Scharping  
**Achievement Program Chairman** – Rob Schiavone

**Contest Chairman** – Charlie Lewis

**Trainmaster** – Dave Angus

**Trainmaster** – Kim Schlytter

**Trainmaster** – Keith Lipske

Additional Trainmaster positions are available, if you are interested in volunteering, please see the Superintendent or Assistant Superintendent.

Website: [www.mwr-nmra.org/dupage](http://www.mwr-nmra.org/dupage)

Division Address:

*DuPage Division – MWR – NMRA*

*P.O. Box 475*

*Downers Grove, IL 60516*

## SHORT BLASTS (THINGS TO DO)

By Tim Schubert – Crossbuck Editor

Some upcoming model railroading events for your calendar:

October 10 – **Scale Model Swap Meet at Elmhurst Christian Reform Center** in Elmhurst, IL. 6 - 9pm Sponsored by the Elmhurst MRRC

October 18-19 – **Southland Model Railroad Show** at Richards High School, Oak Lawn, IL. 10am-5pm – Sat, 10am-3pm – Sun.

October 10 (7-10pm) and November 28 (4-8pm) - **Prairie Scale Model Railroaders Open House**. 3 East Ash St. Lombard, IL

November 22 (10am-4pm) and 23 (12-4pm) – **Ridge Model Railroaders Open House**. Southeast corner of Ridge and Colfax in Griffith, IN

If you know of any other events or are sponsoring an event, please let us know and we'll post it on the Division web site.

## **SPREADING THE WORD ON THE NMRA AND THE DUPAGE DIVISION (and Fox Valley Division as well)**



DuPage Division member Jerry Howard manning the DuPage/Fox Valley table at the Great Midwest Train Show

Upcoming show dates that the DuPage Division will be manning: 2014 - Nov, 2015 - Jan, March and May

Contact Alan Basic if you have interest in helping to promote the hobby and the Division at the show.

### **REPORT OF THE 2014 ALL AMERICAN RAILROAD SHOW** By Patrick Golden

The Division had another very successful All American Railroad Show this past March and was able to generate a grand total profit to the Division of \$2,000.82. In comparison, our three previous years generated profits of \$2,481.61 in 2013, \$1,801.18 in 2012, and \$1,866.13 in 2011.

Our total door collection was \$5,203.00 compared with \$5,629.00 in 2013, \$4,756.00 in 2012 and \$5,645.75 in 2011. Attendance at this year's show was down a bit as evidenced by the numbers, but a survey of the door prize registrations indicate we still draw from several outlying cities and towns and even a few from out of state.

Total expenses, which include postage, office supplies, printing, advertising, coffee, donuts, equipment rental and miscellaneous administrative paperwork, totaled \$1,403.59 compared with \$1,229.26 in 2013, \$1,915.09 in 2012 and \$2,082.75 in 2011. Expenses across the board can be expected to vary a bit from year to year but the Division has eliminated the biggest variance, and biggest gamble, by changing from catered lunches to lunch tickets redeemable at the concession table. The Division again operated the concession and that added \$61.47 to the bottom line.

Our contractual 50/50 split arrangement with the school resulted in a payment to the school of \$1,899.71 compared with \$2,199.87 in 2013, \$1,724.94 in 2012 and \$1,781.50 in 2011. A donation jar set out for coffee, donuts and lunches for exhibitors netted the Division an additional \$39.65 and that combined with the concession profit brought the Division's total profit to \$2,000.82.

A big thank you goes out to the many individuals who stepped forward to help with the show, collecting money, stamping hands, counting money, signing up door prize registrants, manning our Division's "Win This Layout" exhibit, running the concession and doing any number of other small tasks that I called upon them to do. Thank you to Tim Schubert for picking up the rented concession equipment and transporting the HO layout door prize to the winner. A big, big thank you to my wonderful wife Mary who took charge of the concessions, ordering and transporting all the food and even returning some of the unused items for credit. Everyone did a terrific job and your willingness to help is very much appreciated.

This year's show featured a few new layouts and a couple of exhibitors who increased the size of their exhibit. All this adds to the appeal the show offers our target audience - the many moms, dads, kids, grandparents,

etc. that visit the show. Well done to all the exhibitors.

Kalmbach Publishing graciously donated three one-year subscriptions to *Model Railroader* magazine and the fine folks at the Illinois Railway Museum donated four family day passes to the museum. Well done on their part.

I hope to have a date soon for the 2015 show in March and will again look forward to demonstrating our fascinating hobby to the general public.

And finally, if anyone in the Division knows of an individual or group who would like to exhibit at the show, please put me in touch with them. My goal has always been to put on the best show we can and one the public looks forward to and comes back to year after year.

### **Crossing the Great Divide**

By Charlie Lewis

Charlie had provided an article on his thoughts and musings on crossing an opening in his layout. Due to technical difficulties (on the Editors side), this article will be presented at a later date.

The Editor extends his apologies to Charlie for this delay.

### **FROM THE EDITOR**

By Tim Schubert - Editor

Thank you to everyone that provided materials for this edition of the Crossbuck. As always, submissions are welcomed and encouraged from Division members. If you have an idea or thought to share, please consider sending in an article – short or long. Submissions can count towards your MMR achievements.

The **due date for submissions** the *Winter-Spring 2015* Edition of the Crossbuck is **December 1, 2014.**

## **CONTEST ENTRIES FROM THE SEPTEMBER 2014 MEETING**



*Contest notes: For the 2014-15 season, we will continue with the two divisions for the modeling contest: **Novice** and **Advanced**. The Novice division is for those new to the hobby or just starting to hone their skills. The Advanced division is for the experienced modeler. Once a modeler wins the Novice division 3 times, they will compete in the Advanced division. This change was made to encourage additional participation in the Division contests.*

## **SOME INSIGHT INTO THE DIVISION OFFICERS DUTIES**

This section is provided to take some of the “mystery” away from what actually goes on in the Division Officer ranks and to encourage others to take advantage of the opportunity to serve the Division and the hobby. We will be in need of a several new volunteers for the 2015-16 season as the terms of several officers will expire. Your service can apply to your Master Model Railroader Achievement Program.

### **Alan Busic – Superintendent**

The most important duty of the Superintendent is to make sure coffee has been purchased and prepared for each meeting. The next most important duty is to set up and take down tables and chairs for the monthly meetings. The Superintendent runs the monthly meetings, introduces speakers, and schedules BOD meetings and oversees Division direction with the able assistance of the Officers and Train Masters.

### **Fred Henize – Assistant Superintendent**

As Assistant Super my duties involve sourcing the various speakers, presenters and outings that we enjoy each month. The Division board assists in this activity as well. I also work in conjunction with Alan to run the Division, meetings and associated activities.

### **Alex Schneider – Chief Clerk**

The Chief Clerk’s responsibilities fall into two categories: administrative and membership. In the former category, the Chief Clerk takes minutes at Board of Directors’ meetings and has custody of the Division’s archives. In the latter category, the Chief Clerk brings name badges to meetings and collects them afterwards, and produces badges for new members.

### **Rich Strebendt – Paymaster**

The Paymaster (Treasurer) is responsible for banking our small income, paying the bills and maintaining the Division's checking account. The Paymaster periodically reports the Division's financial status to the Board of Directors. In the near future, the Paymaster's duties will expand to include preparing the necessary paperwork to establish and maintain our Division's status as a 501(c)3 organization under the National's tax umbrella.

### **Ron Scharping - Membership Coordinator Activities**

Receive, from the Region Membership Coordinator on a monthly basis, usually by the 7<sup>th</sup>, a Microsoft Excel file containing the Division Roster. Email addresses in this file will be used for email notifications. Address information will be used for mailings. Maintain a Gmail account to be used for *Crossbuck* and meeting announcement email. Maintain a Click2Mail account to be used for all postcard mailings.

Prepare and send meeting announcements, email and postcards, for Sept., Nov, Dec, Feb, Mar, Apr, May meetings. Provide *Crossbuck* mailing label data to *Crossbuck* Editor for Oct. and Jan. meetings

Receive *Crossbuck* content from *Crossbuck* Editor in Sept. and Jan. Email *Crossbuck* for Sept. and Jan. meetings Prepare sign-in sheets for monthly meeting. Retain meeting attendance records

### **Patrick Golden – All American Railroad Show Chairman**

As Chairman of the Division's annual, and only, fundraiser, I am the primary point of contact for all things related to the AARS. My responsibilities include securing a date for the show from Lyons Township High School, sending invitations to exhibitors and processing responses, having flyers printed for distribution to members, hobby shops, libraries, park district offices/community centers and, in some cases, elementary schools and handling various administrative/scheduling issues with LTHS.

My responsibilities also include coordinating newspaper advertisements, finalizing the exhibitor floor layout plan, coordinating exhibitors and distributing passes and lunch tickets, supervising show setup on Friday evening and the show itself on Saturday. In some cases I have also participated in radio, television and newspaper interviews related to the show. Finally, I ensure concessions are purchased and available at the show and that enough individuals are on hand to handle the many tasks involved in the presentation of the show.

In the days after the show I reconcile all expenses and receipts with the Division Paymaster, prepare a report for the Board of Directors and the Crossbuck and verify payment has been made to LTHS for their portion of the show's profit.

### **Tim Schubert – Crossbuck Editor**

As Crossbuck Editor, I am responsible for the production and distribution (along with the Division Membership and Promotions Chairman) of the Crossbuck on a twice a year basis. I also update the Division website information on meetings and officers.

### **Rob Schiavone – Division Achievement Program Chairman**

As Achievement Program Chairman, I work with Division members as they progress through the 11 categories of the NMRA Achievement Program. I provide guidance and feedback on the projects and paperwork required to meet the objectives of the Master Model Railroader award.

### **Charlie Lewis – Division Contest Chair**

The Contest Chair is responsible for generating the various contests held during meetings for the Division. Contest themes are developed from an archive list, member input and Board input. On meeting days, my duties involved categorizing the models presented for the contest, tallying the votes placed, presenting the results and contest prize.

### **Keith Lipske – Trainmaster**

My duties as Trainmaster involve participating in BOD meetings, assisting the Division at meetings and the All American Railroad Show as well as any other needs that the Superintendent or Assistant Superintendent determine.

### **Kim Schlytter– Trainmaster**

As Trainmaster, I participate in Division Board of Directors meetings and volunteer to assist in Division events and projects. I have assisted in manning our booth at the Great Midwest Train Show in Wheaton, represented the Division at our All American Railroad Show at Lyons Township High School in March, and helped with various projects. I also try to make visitors welcome at our Division Meetings and am available to assist members where possible

### **Dave Angus – Trainmaster**

As the newest member of the Trainmasters group, I am a member of the BOD and assist the Division as needed at meetings, Division outings and the All American Railroad Show.

**This edition of the Crossbuck is your notification for the October 5, 2014 Division Meeting.**

The Crossbuck  
Official Publication of the DuPage Division  
of the National Model Railroad Association  
c/o Tim Schubert  
1278 Oxford Lane  
Wheaton, IL 60189

***The Crossbuck*** is the official publication of the DuPage Division of the National Model Railroad Association. Subscription is free to all NMRA members that reside within the boundaries of the DuPage Division. The DuPage Division does not offer any liability from the information contained within this publication.