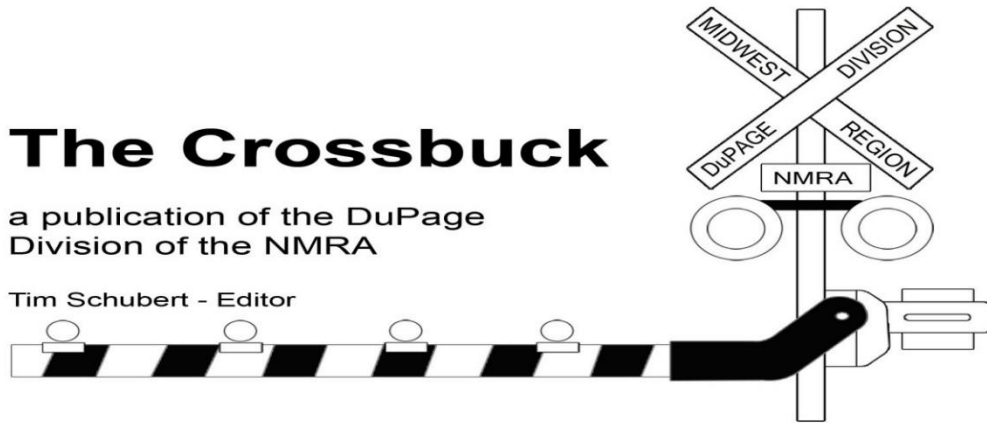


The Crossbuck

a publication of the DuPage
Division of the NMRA

Tim Schubert - Editor



Fall 2022 Edition

FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT'S DESK By Patrick Golden

Welcome back everyone to a 2022-2023 NMRA season that looks to be active and interesting with something for everyone. If you've never been to one of our Sunday Division meetings, or if it's been quite a while for you, I would encourage you to come on out. See what we are all about and what we do or get reacquainted with the group. And we have snacks again!

Summer is typically a time when most modelers resurface from the basement layouts and workbenches and into the daylight. I spent part of my summer polishing a presentation I gave at the September Division meeting and then in August and early September took in several live steam events, including a couple of steam thresher shows, a visit to the Illinois Railway Museum in Union, IL and a couple of outings with operational mainline excursion steam locomotives, Soo Line 2-8-2 #1003 and Nickel Plate Road 2-8-4 #765.

Mainline steam is in my blood and has been for 60 plus years!

The DuPage Division Board of Directors met in mid-August to plan this season's meetings. Elsewhere in this issue of the Crossbuck you'll find a listing of the meeting dates as well as the contests associated with those dates. Clinics/presentations have not been finalized for the entire year so those are not yet included in all cases.

Our regular meeting location, St. Paul's UCC in Downers Grove, has relaxed the policy of bringing food into the building so we will once again enjoy our catered holiday luncheon on Sunday, December 4, 2022. You may remember last December we were forced to take the luncheon off-site and we ended up at Tim Schubert's church in Wheaton. Because of scheduling difficulties though (seems everyone wants a holiday luncheon in December, why I don't know) we ended up having our luncheon in mid-January. We still had a good time though and many thanks go out to Tim for spearheading the effort to schedule it with his church.

You'll also find an article about elections in this Crossbuck. It's never too early to start thinking about elections and next March the Division will be electing a new Superintendent (my position) and a new Chief Clerk (Tim Schubert's position.) We have both reached the end of our two two-year terms and cannot run again for the offices we hold. It's enjoyable and very rewarding to be part of the management of the Division. Please consider stepping forward. The Chief Clerk's position can earn you the Association Volunteer AP Certificate and the Superintendent's position can earn you the Association Official AP Certificate, both good to have and easily achieved on the road to Master Model Railroader.

At the request of our Region President, Bob McGeever, I have undertaken a project to determine how many of the Life Members in our Division are still with us and how many may be participating in an operating session in the great beyond. It was determined at the National Convention this summer the NMRA lacks any viable method of tracking Life Members. National thought the Regions were tracking and vice-versa. National believes there may be as many as 1,000 Life Members who are no longer with us but still on the roster. The DuPage Division lists 45 Life Members and as of this writing I know of or have made contact with 24 I know to still be with us.

Finally, as always, the Division looks to our members for clinics/presentations so if you are willing to speak to the group about "just about anything railroad or model railroad related" we'd love to have you.

Thank you all and Happy Railroading!

MEETING LOCATION FOR 2022-232

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 – 55th Street/Maple & Dunham, South – 63rd Street & Dunham

Division Officers For 2022-2023

Superintendent – Patrick Golden - Expires 5/31/23
Asst. Super. – Perry Sugerman - Expires 5/31/24
Chief Clerk – Tim Schubert - Expires 5/31/23
Paymaster – Alex Schneider - Expires 5/31/24

Trainmasters (All terms expire 5/31/23)

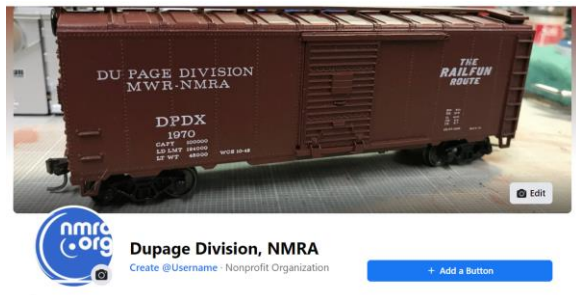
Tim Schubert - *Crossbuck Editor*
Patrick Golden - *All American Railroad Show*
Ron Scharping - *Membership Chairman*
Rob Schiavone - *Achievement Program*
Charlie Lewis - *Contest Chairman*
Dave Koch – *Social Media*
Dave Angus – *Name Tags*
Jerry Howard – *Division Outreach*
Alan Busic – *Division Outreach*
Fred Henize – *At Large Trainmaster*
Perry Sugerman – *At Large Trainmaster*

Contact Information is available on the Division website. Website: www.mwr-nmra.org/dupage

Division Address:

*DuPage Division – MWR – NMRA
1278 Oxford Lane
Wheaton, IL 60189*

Like us on Facebook!



If you are on Facebook, find us at DuPage Division, NMRA. We are looking to grow our presence in this area and use it to promote our annual show. We also have a Division members only closed group as well. Our hobby is not dying, it has just moved to the digital world like many other things.

ELECTIONS MARCH 2023 By Patrick Golden

It's not too early to start thinking about elections and next March the Division will be electing a new Superintendent (my position) and a new Chief Clerk (Tim Schubert's position.) We have both reached the end of our terms and cannot run again for the offices we hold.

Each elected position is for a period of two years and anyone elected to a position is allowed to serve two consecutive terms before needing to step down.

Participating as a member of the leadership team that keeps the Division on track and running smoothly is enjoyable and extremely rewarding. I've taken the opportunity here to describe a bit of what's involved in the two positions up for election next March.

Superintendent:

The Superintendent can be considered the "president" of the Division but in keeping with a "railroad flavor" the Superintendent title is used. The most visible part of this position is running the monthly meetings, making sure the meeting room is set up for the meeting and left as we found it when we leave, making coffee, introducing the presenters and herding people into their seats so the meeting can begin and again resume after intermission. The Superintendent also ensures an election is held each March for the Officer positions up for election.

Behind the scenes duties include scheduling meeting dates with St. Paul's UCC so our meeting room is reserved for us, purchasing coffee and the associated supplies - sugar, creamer, etc. (and you are reimbursed) - scheduling an August meeting of the Board of Directors to plan the upcoming season, scheduling four Board of Directors' meetings throughout the year (typically held immediately after our regular Division meeting) to gather reports from the Board members and Trainmasters, preparing meeting agendas ahead of time and in general overseeing the direction of the Division with the able assistance of the Officers and Trainmasters.

Addition behind the scenes duties include writing a "Superintendent's Column" for the Crossbuck, signing contracts on behalf of the Division (currently the only contract signed is the one with Lyons Township High School for the All-American Railroad Show) and overseeing the distribution of the Division's funds to pay expenses.

Reports are made twice a year to the Region Board of Directors so they remain apprised of the activities at the Division level and attending the Region Board meetings, if possible. The Superintendent is a member of and has a vote on the Region Board of Directors entitling the Superintendent to an Association Official AP Certificate.

Chief Clerk:

The Chief Clerk can be considered the “secretary” of the Division but again in keeping with the “railroad flavor” the title of Chief Clerk is used.

The Chief Clerk’s primary responsibility is to record minutes at the Board of Directors’ meetings, distribute those minutes, maintain a record of the minutes and maintain custody of the Division’s archives. The Chief Clerk is also part of the Division’s Board of Directors, has a vote on the Board and is entitled to an Association Volunteer AP Certificate.

Please consider stepping forward to become part of the management team of the Division. It’s fun, rewarding and garners a feeling of great satisfaction to know you’ve provided a much-needed service to the NMRA, the Division and this hobby of ours.

BECOME A MASTER MODEL RAILROADER!

Get credit for the work you have done! See Rob Schiavone at one of our meetings to get guidance on the Achievement Program for the NMRA. You may be surprised that some of your work or volunteering counts towards this program. See details at <https://www.nmra.org/education/achievement-program>

Railfan Corner – Proctor, MN June 2022



DuPage Division 2022-23 Calendar of Events

Month	Presentation	Contest
September 11, 2022	<i>Building the Mainline Bridge by Patrick Golden</i>	Refrigerator Cars
October 2, 2022	<i>Alternatives to Duck Unders by Perry Sugerman</i>	Maintenance Of Way Equipment
November 6, 2022	<i>Tales of an Old Railroader by Fred Henize</i>	Head End Passenger Equipment
December 4, 2022	<i>Annual Holiday Luncheon</i>	All Categories Photo Contest
January 8, 2023	<i>Changing the Scale of My Railroad by Bill Pistello</i>	Open Loads
February 5, 2023	TBA	Freight and Passenger Stations
March 5, 2023	<i>Train Communications in the 1940's by Bob Hanmer</i>	Annual All NRMA Categories Contest
March XX, 2023	All American Railroad Show – 40th Annual at Lyons Township High School in LaGrange, IL	9am to 5pm Admission \$5
April 2, 2023	Layout Tours	No Contest
May 7, 2023	TBA	Switching Locomotives
May XX, 2023	No Midwest Region Convention for 2023	
June XX, 2023	Division Outing	<i>Let us know some things you want to see or places you may want to go.</i>
August 20-26, 2023	National Convention <i>At Grapevine TX, (Dallas/Ft. Worth area).</i>	<i>National Contests</i>

Short Blasts

Some upcoming model railroading events for your calendar:

Fri & Sun – Elmhurst Model Railroad Club Open House - 111 E. 1st St. Elmhurst, IL Friday – 7-10pm, Sun – 1-4pm *Come out and support some of our Division members*

Weds & Fri – Prairie Scale Model Railroaders - 3 E. Ash St Lombard, IL 7:30-9:30pm *Come out and support some of our Division members*

Oct 16, 2022 – Sherman Scale Train Show – Sherman Athletic Club, Sherman IL. 10am to 3pm, Admission: Adults \$5, Children under 10 are free

Nov 5, 2022 – Oak Park Society of Model Engineers Open House. Dole Center – Lower Level, Oak Park, IL. 12:01pm to 5pm. Admission is Free

Nov 12-13, 2022 – Trainfest – Wisconsin State Fairgrounds, Milwaukee, WI. 9am to 5pm. Admission: Adult 2-day ticket - \$20, Saturday only \$19.95, Sunday only \$14.95. See website for additional details

Dec 2, 2022 – Model Railroad Swap Meet – Stone City VFW, Joliet, IL. 9am to 2pm. Will County MRRA event. Admission: Adults \$5, Under 12 are free

Jan 8, 2023 – Scale Model Swap Meet – Elmhurst MRRC – Elmhurst Christian Reform Center, Elmhurst, IL. 6pm to 9pm, \$5 admission

Jan 21, 2023 – Planes, Trains and Automobiles Swap Meet and Show – St. John Lutheran Church, Darien, IL. 9am to 3pm. Admission: Adults \$5, Children 12 to 17 \$2, Under 12 are free

Keep your eye on our Facebook page as we will promote any upcoming model railroading or prototype events as we are notified. Also consider linking to the FB

group Model Train Show Schedules. They post shows from all over the country to help plan your upcoming trips...

WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST MEMBERS

- Andrew Bobis – Lisle
- Michael Fagel – Sugar Grove
- Robert Hansen – New Lenox
- David Miecznikowski – South Holland
- Jim Panza – Oswego
- James Stover - Wheaton

Welcome to the NMRA and the DuPage Division – we hope to see you at a meeting!

Home Printed Decals – by Tim Schubert

During the height of Covid, we had one of our Division meetings on Zoom with a presentation on several subjects by Dave Ackmann from St. Louis, MO. He covered several subjects amongst which was printing decals at home. I was really intrigued by this and thought I would give it a try.

During Covid I had been building out a BN grain train and had several cars that needed to be renumbered. I also had some private road cars I wanted to do related to my modern version of the Minneapolis & Rainy River (an old Minnesota logging railroad).

I set about designing the decals I wanted to print and tried out various fonts, colors and logos from a variety of internet sources. This was done while waiting for the decal paper to show up from Amazon.

Dave had recommended the brand Avia for decal paper in both clear and white. I ordered the clear version (which will end up being a nemesis – more to come on that).

Once the paper arrived, I set about refining the print style and size by printing out test sheets on plain paper and cutting them to size. Once a few test fits were completed, I printed out the decals on the Avia paper.

Our older ink-jet printer provided an acceptable output. A laser or better-quality ink-jet may provide better results. Once the decals were printed, I sealed them with a clearcoat of lacquer. Due to the ongoing supply chain issues (especially with paint related chemicals), I ended up using a rattle can of Dullcote as opposed to a gloss finish. In this case it did not matter as the cars will eventually be weathered.

After allowing them to dry for a few days, it was decaling time. I prepared several cars for decaling: an FMC covered hopper, 2 ACF covered hoppers and 2 FMC box cars.

Out of these, I was only successful on the FMC covered hopper. This was a renumbering of an AFEX car to BN as happened in the late 80's. The results are below:



For a first attempt on I was pretty happy with the results. Once it gets weathering like the prototype, it should all blend in and look really good. A shot of the prototype is shown below.



As for the other cars, here is a rundown of what went wrong:

ACF covered hoppers – I had two Accurail data only hoppers. I followed general practice and gave the cars a gloss coat. Unfortunately, it was a bad batch of gloss and both cars ended up with a severe orange-peel surface. Off to the strip bath for them.

FMC box cars – rookie mistake here. Printing “white numbers” on a clear decal film is really printing clear on clear. Once applied to the dark car, the numbers disappeared. Duh! These will be tried again once the white decal paper arrives.

I would encourage you to give this a try if you are looking for a unique decal where super crisp quality is not an issue. If you do need custom printed decals, there are many companies offering this service today – a quick search on the internet or Facebook will provide several options for you.

Keep on modeling.

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c/o Tim Schubert
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Wheaton, IL 60189

**This is your notification of the October 2,
2022 meeting**

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.