

The Crossbuck

a publication of the DuPage
Division of the NMRA

Tim Schubert - Editor



Winter-Spring 2011 Edition

A MESSAGE FROM THE "SUP"

By Keith Lipske – Superintendent

"Model Railroading" season is in full swing and spring is on the horizon.

How is your layout coming? Is it just about ready to add to the layout tour this year? It doesn't take place until April. That still gives you plenty of time to finish whatever you need to get done. If you are interested in showing you handiwork, contact our Asst. Superintendent, John Brennan.

Remember our permanent mailing address:
DuPage Division – MWR – NMRA
P.O. Box 475
Downers Grove, IL 60515

Just a reminder, that in March, we will be electing the Division Superintendent, Asst. Superintendent and Chief Clerk. Remember that the Asst. Superintendent position is for only 1 year. The CAL-DIV was dissolved last year because of lack of

member participation and the North Shore Division was absorbed into the Fox Valley Division. Are we next? Contact our Nominating committee if you are interested in running for one of those positions. They are: Patrick Golden and Rob Schiavone.

Want to help out but don't want to be an elected officer. Contact me and be a TRAINMASTER!!

It's **YOUR** Division!! **PARTICIPATE!!**
The "SUP"

MEETING LOCATION FOR 2011

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

2011 MEETING SCHEDULE

February 6, 2011

1:30pm at St. Paul's UCC

Program: Victorian Houses by Rob Schiavone

Contest: Railroad Structures – found a lot in rail service and yard facilities: offices, sheds, storage buildings, towers, MOW and repair facilities

March 6, 2011

1:30pm at St. Paul's UCC

Program: Interlocking Towers by Patrick Golden

Contest: Annual All Categories Model Contest – includes locomotives, cars, buildings, scenic vistas (dioramas) and photos

April 3, 2011

1:30pm at St. Paul's UCC

Program: Division Layout Tours – Contact John Brennan if you would like to present your layout to the Division

Contest: None due to tour

May 1, 2011

1:30pm at St. Paul's UCC

Program: Classic Car Cards and Waybills by John Brennan

Contest: Member's Request – Small Diorama's – approx 12" x12"

June 5 or 12, 2011

Program: Division outing to someplace railroad or model railroad related and fun!

*Note: Dates may be subject to change

DIVISION OFFICERS FOR 2010-11

Superintendent – Keith Lipske

Term expires 5/31/11

Asst. Superintendent – John Brennan

Term expires 5/31/11

Chief Clerk – Alan Basic

Term expires 5/31/11

Paymaster – Jim Allamian

Term expires 5/31/12

Trainmasters (All terms expire 5/31/11)

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 – Fred Henize

Trainmaster – Doug Krahn

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

Website: www.mwr-nmra.org/dupage

Division Address:

DuPage Division – MWR – NMRA

P.O. Box 475

Downers Grove, IL 60516

2011 ALL AMERICAN RAILROAD SHOW -30th Annual!

By Patrick Golden, Chairman - All American Railroad Show

The 2011 All American Railroad Show is scheduled for Saturday, March 19, 2011.

The location is the same, the Lyons Township High School North Campus Fieldhouse located at Brainard and Cossitt Avenues in LaGrange, just a short distance from the BNSF Stone Avenue commuter station.

Set up will be on Friday night March 18, 2011 beginning at 6:30 pm and running until 10:00 pm and again on Saturday morning beginning at 7:00 am. Please note the Friday night set up time begins one-half hour later than usual.

Doors open to the public at 9:00 am on Saturday. The Division will again provide lunch to the exhibitors.

For those who may want to promote the show via their club newsletters please keep in mind admission to the show has been raised to \$4.00. Some information got out two years ago using the old admission price of \$3.00 and this made for a few odd moments for our money collectors at the door. The Division does appreciate any advertising we can get in club and organization newsletters so please do not hesitate to promote the show. We have had a very good turnout the past few years in spite of a sagging economy.

A few volunteers are needed on Friday evening just to make sure everything falls into place as the exhibitors arrive and begin to set up. Friday evening is typically spent distributing floor location information to the exhibitors, helping them measure for their location and spot checking around the room to make sure there are no conflicts.

The bulk of the volunteers are needed on Saturday to collect money at the door, stamp hands, distribute lunches, count money, make bank runs and staff our own Division's table near the entrance to the show.

This year we again expect to have door prizes to award at the end of the day and the door prize registration process also needs to be monitored throughout the day.

To date 34 invitations have been sent. If anyone knows of any group who would like to be a part of the show and exhibit a layout, module or something else related to the hobby and of interest to those who attend our show please have them contact me at 708-482-8225 and/or pggolden@aol.com.

SHORT BLASTS

By Tim Schubert – Crossbuck Editor

Some upcoming model railroading events for your calendar:

January 30 – **Prairie Scale Model Railroaders Open House** Lombard, IL 1-5pm

February 5 & 6 – **Rail-o-Rama** St. Charles, IL 10am-9pm and 10am-6pm

February 19 – **Chicagoland Lionel RR Club** Open House New Lenox, IL 9am -3pm

February 19 & 20 – **Mad City Railroad Show & Sale** – Madison, WI

February 27 - **Prairie Scale Model Railroaders Open House** Lombard, IL 1-5pm

March 5 & 6 – **High Wheeler Train Show** Palatine, IL 9am-5pm

March 11 – **Swap Fest at Our Lady of the Ridge**, Chicago Ridge, IL 6:30-9:30pm

March 19– **All American Railroad Show at Lyon Township High School 30th Annual** - LaGrange, IL sponsored by the DuPage Division

March 27 - **Prairie Scale Model Railroaders Open House** Lombard, IL 1-5pm

April 8 – **Scale Model Railroad Swap Meet** Elmhurst, IL 6-9pm

April 15 to 17, 2011 – **The Badgerland Express** – Madison, WI

April 17 - **Prairie Scale Model Railroaders Open House** Lombard, IL 1-5pm

July 8 – **Scale Model Railroad Swap Meet** Elmhurst, IL 6-9pm

Every Friday and Sunday – **Elmhurst Model Railroad Club Open House**
Elmhurst, IL 7-10pm and 1-4pm

First Friday of each month – **Wagon masters Model Railroad Club Open House** Elmhurst, IL 7-10pm

See additional details on these events at www.modelrailroader.com/events.

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.

NATIONAL & REGION NOTES AND INFORMATION

The Badgerland Express 2011

The 2011 Midwest Region, NMRA, Spring Convention will be hosted by the South Central Wisconsin Division (SCWD) of the NMRA, at the Radisson Hotel, located on the west side of Madison just off Highways 12/18 near West Town Mall on April 15 to 17, 2011.

Blocks of rooms at the hotel have been set aside and start at \$99. There is a wide variety of clinics being presented as well as layout tours. This convention is focused on youth in model railroading and there are several activities especially for them.

Check out the details at the website www.nmra-scwd.org.

FROM THE BACK OF THE ROUNDHOUSE

By Charlie Lewis

Charlie is taking a break for this edition. We want to pass on from the Division condolences on the passing of his father, Ed Lewis. Our thoughts and prayers are with Charlie and Alberta. Memorial information is available at www.sedgwickfuneralhomes.com.

ONE MEMBER'S PERSPECTIVE

By Patrick Golden

I became a member of the NMRA in 2000, received the membership package shortly after joining, looked it over and promptly filed it away. In the first two years after joining I attended only one Division meeting didn't know a soul at the meeting didn't feel part of the "group" and never went back. That is, until I received the *Crossbuck* one day and caught the article from then Assistant Superintendent Tim Schubert seeking individuals to volunteer as presenters for a clinic at one of the monthly meetings. The promise was the clinic could be any length and on any topic model or prototype railroad related.....and there was no need to bring refreshments; they were provided.

Being a lifelong railfan in addition to an armchair model railroader, I responded and dropped Tim an e-mail volunteering to put together a clinic highlighting 1960's steam locomotive excursions in the Chicago area. Talk about jumping into the deep end of the pool, here I was going from being a nobody to being the featured speaker at a Division meeting, and it was all my doing.

The rest, as they would say, is history. Once I took the plunge I found the water to

be just fine. I have come to know several of the members very well, have leaned on them for modeling information and techniques and have been welcomed into their homes on layout tours. I have gone on to assemble and present several clinics and have taken on the responsibilities of coordinating the annual All American Railroad Show.

The point is the water's just fine. Was I apprehensive at first? Sure I was. Did I know anyone? Not a soul. Do my skills as a modeler rival some of the best in the hobby? Not a chance. Are my speaking skills on a par with some of the best speakers in history? Probably not. Does any of this matter to the membership at the meetings? No it doesn't.

Our Division's membership is made up of individuals from many walks of life and with a broad range of modeling interests and skills. Of the 300 or so members in the DuPage Division, on a good day, perhaps 30 venture out to the meeting.

To anyone sitting on the fence, to anyone mulling the same concerns that once kept me from the meetings or to anyone who may be thinking the NMRA and the hobby have passed them by, I would strongly encourage you to throw caution to the wind and come out for a meeting, or two, or three. You may be pleasantly surprised at how welcoming and open the meetings are. If your modeling skills, like mine, leave a little to be desired, you may be impressed with the models that are brought for contest entries. You can ask questions of those who built the models to gather ideas and learn techniques. The clinics are great too, be it a hands on learning clinic or a slide show or PowerPoint presentation to

generate ideas or see how the prototype does things.

The typical Division meeting has a little something for everyone. All you need to do is show up and become involved! Why not make plans to come on out for the next meeting.....and remember, refreshments are provided!

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 Fall – Winter 2011-2012 Edition of the Crossbuck is **August 1, 2011**.

TAKING THE CROSSBUCK ELECTRONIC

Electronic copies of the Crossbuck will be sent to those that have provided emails recently. If you would like to receive a “soft-copy” version of the Crossbuck, please see me at one of the meetings or email the Crossbuck editor at tijjr7@att.net. This is my home email address. Please be sure to note in the subject line the words “Crossbuck Softcopy.”

Thanks for your help with this matter.

**THIS NEWLETTER IS NOTIFICATION OF THE
FEBRUARY 6, 2011 MEETING. THERE WILL
BE NO POSTCARDS SENT.**

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.

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