

The Crossbuck

a publication of the DuPage
Division of the NMRA

Tim Schubert - Editor



Winter-Spring 2016 Edition

A Message From The Superintendent

By Alan Busic – Superintendent

Here it is, the New Year upon us with an outstanding set of programs provided by Assistant Superintendent Ray Gerlich for our monthly meetings and 3 special events organized by your Board of Directors to get us through winter and into spring. I hope everyone has had a wonderful holiday season.

I want to take this opportunity to thank Tim Schubert for his work on the December Christmas Party. Each year, he does the ordering, pick-up, cooking, and presenting our meal so we can have a festive time together. It's a day when all scales and gauges can come together and celebrate friendship. I also want to thank the spouses who brought the delicious dessert items. I always remember the saying: "Life is short, eat dessert first".

Remember these upcoming special events:
Kitbash-a-kit contest on February 7, Model
Railroading 101, on Saturday February 20, the

All American Train Show on March 19, and our annual Division Layout tour on April 10.

There is a lot of fun to be done in the Division, join us!

MEETING LOCATION FOR 2015-16

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

A Welcome to New Members!

By Ron Scharping – Membership Chairman

The following named individuals joined the NMRA and the DuPage Division since November of 2015.

Welcome! Come to a meeting and say Hi!

The Steinke Family – Tinley Park, IL
Jeffery Sodaro – Downers Grove, IL
Philip Pittsford – Wheaton, IL
William Mullenholz – Lisle, IL
Bill Rock – Carol Stream, IL
James Johnson – Naperville, IL

2016 Meeting Schedule

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

February 7, 2016

Program and Contest: Results of the Division wide Kitbashing Contest

Note: Be sure to pick up your building at one of the meetings for a reduced price of \$10.

February 20, 2016, 1 to 5 pm

Model Railroading 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 6, 2016

Program: DCC Talk by Bill Drzal and friends
Contest: Annual All Categories – cars, buildings, vistas and such. Bring it all!

March 19, 2016 – The All American Railroad Show at Lyons Township High School – 35th Annual 9am to 5pm

April 10, 2016

Note: This is a change from the original date

Program: Division Layout Tours – Contact Alan or Ray if you are interested in showing your layout. We'll be focusing on the southeast area of our Division this year.
Contest: none.

May 1, 2016

Programs: Railroading and Circus Models by Ray Gerlich; Techniques for building and scenery on HO modules by Andrew Bobis
Contest: Thumzbz – bringing back an oldie but goody (based on a popular model railroading cartoon). Bring something that will provide some "pun"ishment...

Note: This is a joint meeting with the Venture Crew 57 modeling railroad group.

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

Division Officers For 2015-16

Superintendent – Alan Busic	Expires 5/31/17
Asst. Super. – Ray Gerlich	Expires 5/31/17
Chief Clerk – Alex Schneider	Expires 5/31/16
Paymaster – Richard Strebendt	Expires 5/31/16

Trainmasters (All terms expire 5/31/16)

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 Schlitter
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

Division Address:

*DuPage Division – MWR – NMRA
P.O. Box 475
Downers Grove, IL 60516*

We're Trying Something New – Member to Member Sale Table

A member-to-member sales table will be available at future DuPage Division meetings. Shopping opportunities will be limited to: Before the meeting starts, during the break, and after the meeting. A member may place up to 5 items for sale. There is no charge for the table space nor does the Division receive any of the proceeds from the sale. If the material to be sold is to be left unattended, a sign identifying the seller should be provided by the seller. Ron Scharping will coordinate the sales activity

From the APC Desk

By Rob Schiavone

Achievement Program Coaching or APC for short, that is what we are calling it.

The Achievement Program is not only a recognition of achievements in model railroading, as the name implies, but it is also a program of education. It is meant to help model railroaders improve and add to their skills as modelers as they pursue each AP Certificate.

It has been the practice of the DuPage Division to make a general offer of help with the AP and expect that someone would come to us for guidance. I have tried to make it clear that if you bring a model to the contest and you would like to have it judged for AP points, you just have to let me know and I would be happy to arrange to get it judged on the spot.

Due to the input of those pursuing AP certificates, at our most recent board meeting this approach was brought up for discussion. It seemed to all of us on the Board that we needed to make it more convenient and welcoming for someone to

bring models and projects aimed at an AP Certificate for review, coaching, and if warranted, judging at our monthly meetings. We wanted to create an atmosphere of encouragement and assistance for anyone wanting to start or advance through this program. It is our sincerest wish that everyone who pursues an AP Certificate receives one. We know that it is a challenge to earn all the points required on the first try and perhaps difficult to understand what exactly must be done to attain them.

Therefore, we will be starting something new at our February meeting. There will be a table set up at the back of the room opposite the contest tables for those who would like to bring a model or other project for review. The models do not have to be associated with our monthly contest theme. Or, anyone needing help with forms or who just have questions can find me at this table. All the forms will be available. We have a number of people in the DuPage Division that are very qualified to help with this coaching. I hope with this new approach we can begin to increase our MMR numbers and more importantly help people learn new skills and achieve the awesome models they want to create.

As always I am available for questions, even though I may not be able to get back to you right away. You can reach me at 630-690-3262 or at robert_s_60188@yahoo.com.

2016 All American Railroad Show

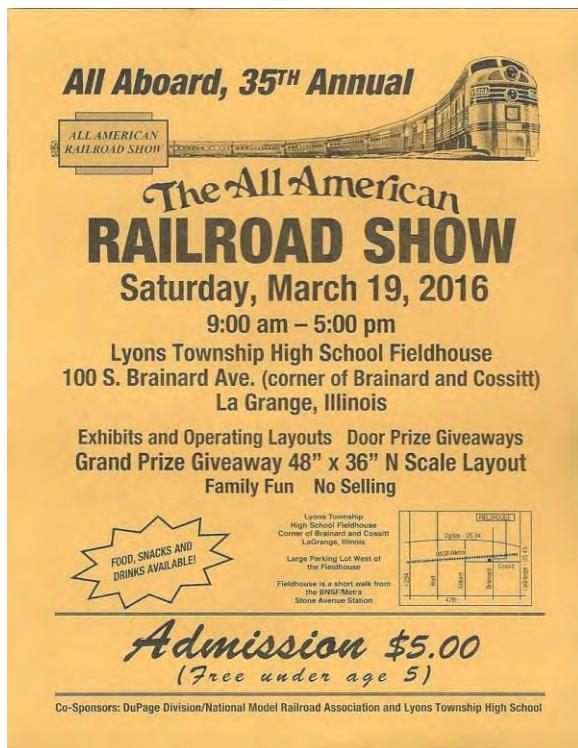
By Patrick Golden/Tim Schubert

The show is set! **March 19th**. Be sure to contact Patrick or Alan to volunteer to work the show.

Our Division's future depends upon the proceeds from this show. The hard work of Division members makes it happen. We'll need help with taking money at the door, working on our MR 101 layout (that will be given away at the show), working the concession stand, working the DuPage Division informational table and more.

Sign up at one of our upcoming Division meetings or call/contact Patrick or Alan.

Your support of this important event helps the Division and is FUN! It is worth spending the day to see the reaction of the kids (both small and big) to the trains.



Short Blasts (Things To Do)

By Tim Schubert – Crossbuck Editor

Some upcoming model railroading events for your calendar:

February 28 – Prairie Scale Model Railroaders Open House at 3 E Ash St in Lombard 1pm to 4pm

March 5 and 6 – High Wheeler Train Show at Harper College in Palatine. 9am to 5pm. Admission: \$8 (13 and older), \$2 (5-12), Under 5 are Free. Sponsored by the Fox Valley Division – NMRA

March 12 – Ridge Model Railroaders Open House. Southeast corner of Ridge and Colfax in Griffith, IN Sat – 10 to 4
Come out and support some of our Division members

March 19 – All American Railroad Show at Lyons Township HS (North campus) in LaGrange. 9am to 5pm. Admission \$5 Under 5 are Free. Sponsored by the DuPage Division - NMRA

April 8 – Scale Model Railroad Swap Meet at Elmhurst Christian Reform Center in Elmhurst 6pm to 9pm \$5 admission

April 1 – Prairie Scale Model Railroaders Open House at 3 E Ash St in Lombard 7pm to 10pm

May 6 – Prairie Scale Model Railroaders Open House at 3 E Ash St in Lombard 7pm to 10pm

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: March and May 2016

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

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 with a subject line of Newsletter.

From the Back of the Roundhouse

By Charlie Lewis

The next model railroad clinic of my “From the Back of the Roundhouse” series for the Crossbuck will be in the October edition. I pass along my thanks to Editor Tim Schubert for running these and for his help with photography.

Contest Notes from Charlie

By Charlie Lewis

For the year 2016, I am looking forward to continued very good participation by our DuPage Division colleagues in the model contests during each meeting. Remember it all depends upon whomever can bring one (or more) of his or her projects to showcase and talk about.

The exchange of ideas and modeling tips is one of my goals as Chairman for the contest at every meeting. The Division members are in charge of how these contests prosper. I highly encourage you to keep up the “Good Work”.

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 2016* Edition of the Crossbuck is **September 1, 2016**. This edition will be used as the notification for the October 2016 meeting.

Model Railroading 101

Learn the Basics of Layout Construction...

- ◆ Building Benchwork
- ◆ Installing Track
- ◆ Electrical Wiring
- ◆ Constructing Scenery

Saturday, February 20, 2016

1 pm to 5 PM

St. Paul's United Church of Christ

5729 Dunham Road

Downers Grove, IL 60516

Adult (Includes One Child)\$20.00

Additional Adult or Child\$10.00

(Minimum Age 8 Years Old)

Registration Form

Name _____

Address _____

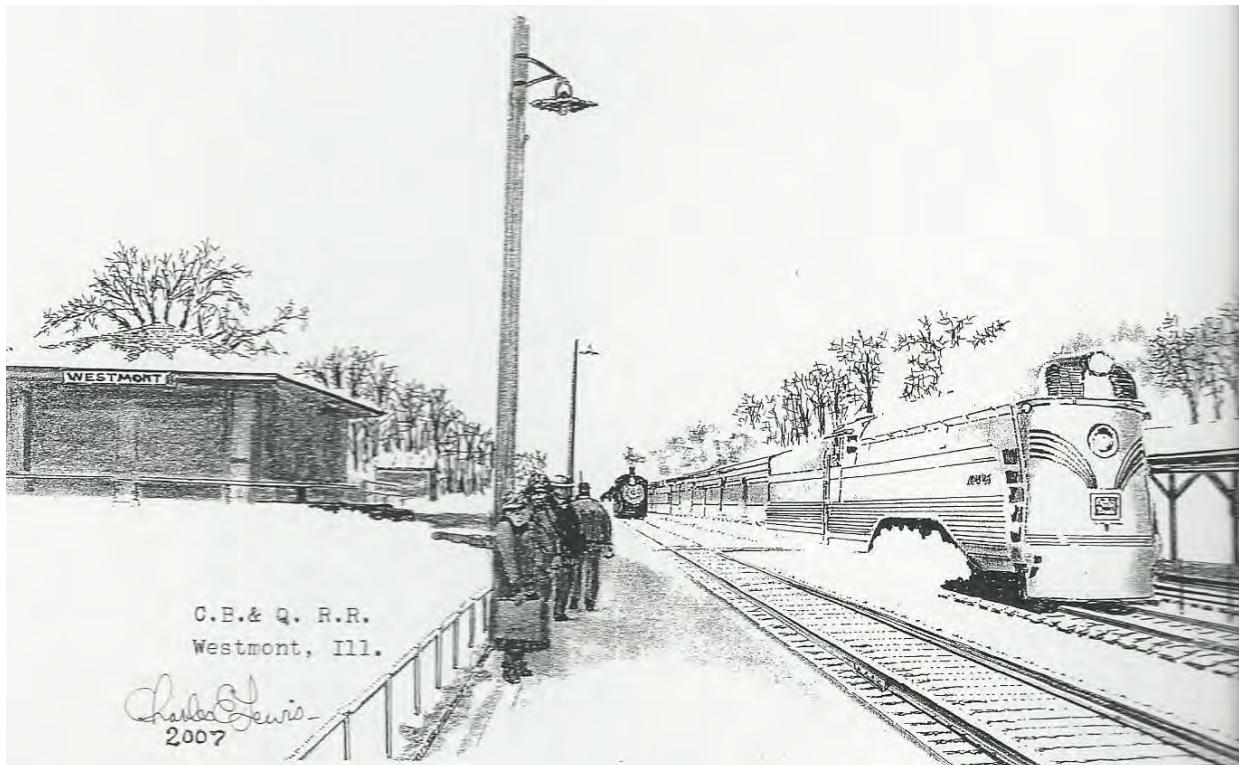
City, State _____

Zip _____

Phone _____

Make checks payable to and return form to
DuPage Division – National Model Railroad Assn.
P.O. Box 475
Downers Grove, IL 60515

Sponsored by DuPage Division
National Model Railroad Association
www.nmra.org



Original artwork by Division member Charlie Lewis



Our Division members enjoying the presentation on kitbashing structures by Rob Schiavone

**This edition of the Crossbuck is your
notification for the February 3, 2016 Division
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.

The Crossbuck
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