

## 2015 Spring Bert Lattan Stepping Down--15 years as Secretary

# Waybill

Mid West Region NMRA –  
Spring 2015

### President's Report

By Paul Mangan, President, MWR



**Paul Mangan**

modeling, things are always changing. Our layouts and models may be held in a timeframe but in the real world, time keeps moving on.

The real world has come to call here at home in the Midwest Region as after 15 years of serving as secretary of the Midwest Region, Bert Lattan has decided it is time to step down and let someone else perform this task. After being involved with the Midwest Region for the past eight years I have come to rely on Bert's knowledge and expertise on all matters pertaining to our Region and our interactions with the NMRA. From putting the board meeting packages together to the timely filing of reports Bert has shown what true leadership really means.

Bert will remain involved as he is part of some important committees. At the 2015 spring Board of Directors meeting he will complete his long run as MWR secretary. I believe we all owe Bert a very tremendous thank you for his service to our hobby and the NMRA. I personally want to thank Bert for helping to keep me on a straight path as a new president.

I have begun a search for a new secretary and as you may know, this is an appointed position. My list is very short at the time of this writing so if you are interested please let me know. Bert will work with you to make sure

Time and tide never has waited for any one! The seasons keep changing as do the events of life. With all the strife going on in the world it is at least a little heartening to have our hobby to fall back on for a little break in world events. Even within our world of

you have everything you will need.

I would like to thank all who voted in the election for allowing me to continue serving as your president. In behalf of the other candidates I thank you as well. I welcome Reid Kahrs from Wisconsin Southeastern Division, Minton Dings from the Illinois Valley Division and Dan Brewer from the Michiana Division as Directors at Large and also welcoming back your Vice President Steve Studley. Thanks also to Jim Allen, Dave Leider and Linda Sukup for their service as Directors at Large.

All of the positions on the board are very important positions. What is disheartening is the fact that fewer and fewer members are volunteering to let their names stand. I am one who believes in the old saying that if you don't like the way something is going then you should get involved with the process and bring your ideas to the table. Maybe you should consider running for office in the next election cycle. Change only comes when members get involved.

The new Directors at Large will take office at the upcoming board meeting at The Lake Shore Limited MWR Convention.

Speaking of the Lake Shore Limited convention, James Cruthers and the Convention committee are brewing up a real good line up of things to keep you busy. There are lots of layout tours and operating sessions, a full lineup of clinics both rail and non-rail, an evening banquet on Saturday (buffet style) with a guest speaker and a swap meet going on as well.

So you can see that if your life partner wants to come along there are lots of things to keep them busy as well. From Project Linus quilting to museum tours to gardening they will have plenty to do. You still have time to get on board so come on and join us in Manitowoc Wisconsin for a great week end. Springtime is great in Wisconsin and the Winnebagoland Division welcomes you to the Lake Shore Limited Midwest Region Convention 2015.

For more info go to <http://www.wld-nmra.com/?action=meets>



## 2015 Spring Jim Landwehr becomes new MWR AP Chairman

Continued from page 1

Now that the modeling season is in full swing I hope you have been taking advantage of the different train shows that are usually the center piece of most of our divisions. You can support not only your own division but maybe traveling to neighboring divisions and help support them while at the same time meeting up with fellow NMRA members making new friends and seeing old friends.

See you by the Rails  
Paul

## Region News

### Midwest Region Achievement Program Report by Jim Landwehr- MWR AP Manager

I would like to introduce myself to you, my name is Jim Landwehr and I am serving as the new MWR AP Manager. I live in Arlington Heights, Illinois and I have been the Fox Valley Division AP Manager for the last eight years.

I would like to extend my thanks and gratitude to Marvin Preussler for his efforts as the previous MWR AP Manager and for making a smooth transition for me into this position. He has shared many tips and ideas with me on how to make this role beneficial to everyone in the region. Hopefully, I will be able to perform my duties for many years to come, and I look forward to working with our MWR members and helping wherever I can.

I would like to make the Achievement Program as enjoyable and efficient as possible for all of the members.

Here are a few suggestions I would like to share with everyone:

Accurate record keeping, by you the member is very important in the AP. Keeping track of what you do, as you do it, is the very best way to achieve a certificate. All the record and validation forms are available on the NMRA website. If you are thinking about completing a certificate, print out the forms and keep track of what you do as you do it. Also, the AP program only works if you get involved in it. I am unable to do it for you.

If you are interested in getting involved with the program, or have a question, please contact your division AP Manager first and work with that person. If your division does not have an AP Manager, then certainly contact me and I will do my best to answer any questions that you have. I am also working on becoming an MMR with a few certificates to complete.

Many of us are looking forward to the exciting spring season full of train shows and meetings to help us get motivated.

The following members received an AP Certificate:

Jim Osborn	McHenry, IL	Chief Dispatcher
Minton Dings	Havana, IL	Electrical
Michael Hirvela	Waukegan, IL	Chief Dispatcher
Robert Blake	Sawyer, MI	Volunteer
Minton Dings	Havana, IL	Structures
Emory Luebke	Greenville, WI	Volunteer
Emory Luebke	Greenville, WI	Electrical

Members throughout the Midwest Region continue to participate in the achievement program.

Jim Landwehr Midwest Region AP Manager

### Annual Meeting of Members Holiday Inn Manitowoc, Wisconsin

8:00 pm, Saturday, April 18, 2015

### Midwest Region 2015 Spring Convention

The Winnebago Division will host the Lake Shore Limited, the Midwest Region's spring convention on April 17-19, 2015.

Convention activities will take place at the Holiday Inn Manitowoc, 4601 Calumet Ave, Manitowoc, WI 54220; (920)682-6000. It was completely remodeled in 2014, is located off Interstate 43 and Hwy 151 with easy access to the operating session layouts and layout tours as well as a variety of nearby restaurants. A special discounted group room rate of \$99.00 (1-4 people per room) + tax/night. Guests should call the hotel direct at 920-682-6000 to make reservations. Please reference Group Code: National Model Railroad Association when making reservations.

### Spring Board Meeting

### Holiday Inn Manitowoc, Wisconsin

Sunday, April 19, 2015; 9:00 am

## 2015 Summer



Bert Lattan receives a plaque for his years of service from MWR President Mangan.  
Photo by Walt Herrick

### Interview with Bert Lattan

by Walt Herrick, Fox Valley Division

I had the opportunity to sit down with former Midwest Region Secretary, Bert Lattan, a few weeks after he left office to ask him a few questions about his experience as MWR Secretary. Here's what he had to say:

Walt: Bert, why did you volunteer to become MWR Secretary back in 2000?

Bert: Jim O'Toole was MWR President at the time and he sent out an appeal for someone to volunteer to be Secretary in the Spring 2000 Waybill I think it was. They had been without a secretary for few months and had gone through a couple of secretaries in the past couple of years who had to resign prematurely for one reason or another. So, Jim was looking for help. I talked to him about the position and told him I would do it if he and the board agreed to have all board communication transition to email. They agreed and I took the job.

Walt: Did you think at the time, you'd stay for 15 years?

Bert: No. My plan was to retire in five years. But, around the time I planned to retire, the NMRA started going through its reorganization. It took me a year or two to understand how the region was organized and worked, so I thought it would be unfair to have a new person come in at that time and try to learn the region's organizational procedures and also take on the re-organizing the NMRA was doing. I stayed on to help with the reorganizing and rewriting of the region's constitution and bylaws, and then stayed a little longer—ten years longer to be exact!—after that.

## 2015 Fall

### Around the Midwest Region

by Walt Herrick, Fox Valley Division

Summer in my Fox Valley Division is a little more relaxing than during our September through May modeling year. We don't schedule monthly meetings in June, July and August, so our members have a chance to get out and rail fan, visit other layouts, go on family vacations, outings, etc. An outing our Membership Promotions Trainmaster, Mike Hirvela, (and a number of other Fox Valley members, too) went on was to the annual Franklin Park Railroad Daze celebration June 11 - 13. At this event, Chicago's west suburban town of Franklin Park celebrates its rich railroad heritage with a ton of railroad related activities for rail fans and the whole family. There are prototype locos and rolling stock to see (and some to tour), special prototype displays, model railroads, a carnival, lots of food vendors, and live music. To top it all off, everything is free! Mike sent along some shots he took of this year's excellent festival...Several Fox Valley members including yours truly, enjoy visiting the Illinois Railway Museum in the summer. The museum is located out in the country north west of Chicago near the small village of Union, Illinois. There's a bunch (with a capital B!) of stuff to see and ride at the museum especially on weekends. Railfanning is great particularly on one of their special event weekends or when their Frisco 2-10-0 steamer #1630 is running....Though the FVD doesn't hold monthly meetings in the summer, we do have a summer outing usually in August. Our Public Relations and Webmaster Trainmaster, Jim Osborn, took some great shots of this summer's outing to the Illinois Live Steamers south of Chicago in Joliet. The weather was superb for the event as were the live steam locomotive models which the ILS guys ran the day we were there....Soon we'll back to "work" at our regular Sunday afternoon monthly meetings normally on the third Sunday of the month. We'll also be preparing for our High Wheeler Train Show March 5 & 6 at Harper College in Palatine, Illinois. (Yes friends, there will be a High Wheeler Show in 2016 despite any rumors to the contrary!) The Show's new web site should be up and running by the time you read this.

Frisco 1630 is near the Seeman Road grade crossing with six cars this past July on Illinois Railway Museum right of way. Walt Herrick photo. The Fox Valley Division visited the Illinois Live Steamers in August and had a great time at their extensive facility. That's Waybill Editor, David Leider, MMR, in the light blue cap at the picnic table. Three photos below by Jim Osborn.



At Railroad Daze in June, a UP SD70AII and an IHB Genset switcher were two locos you could view and tour. Above photos by Mike Hirvela.



## 2015 Winter



The above photo was taken at the banquet of the Soo Line Historical & Technical Society. The reason I included it here is that the above are all MMR's from the Midwest Region. I thought it pretty remarkable.

From left to right, Marv Preussler MMR, Gregg Condon MMR, Mark Preussler MMR, David Leider MMR, Bob Wundrock MMR and Bill Ehlert MMR. Looks like a fun group, why not join us?

## ELECTION TIME

### PAUL WUSSOW Director-at-Large (Incumbent)



I have been in model railroading for more than 50 years. From Lionel to HO and HOn3 through the NMRA since 1982 I progressed in scale modeling and operations. Instructional Technology was my specialty at the

University of Illinois Chicago where service over time from Chief Broadcast Engineer to Assistant Dean, Operations, in the College of Education. Leaving the UIC for private industry, I became the Global Director of Technology for a Private Equity firm. Retiring at the end of 2009 my wife and I purchased a home in Three Lakes, WI where I am the president of the Three Lakes Model Railroad Club, Wisconsin's first and only 100% NMRA club. [www.tlmc.org](http://www.tlmc.org)

I have served as a DAL for the MWR for the last 2 years and have been able to provide service to the Region and divisions during that time. I have served as MWR Photo Contest Chair and Photographer. I also served as the Du Page Division AP Chair and hold a Golden Spike + 5 AP certificates; Volunteer, Electrical, Civil, Author, and Dispatcher.

## Candidate Biographies for Director Positions

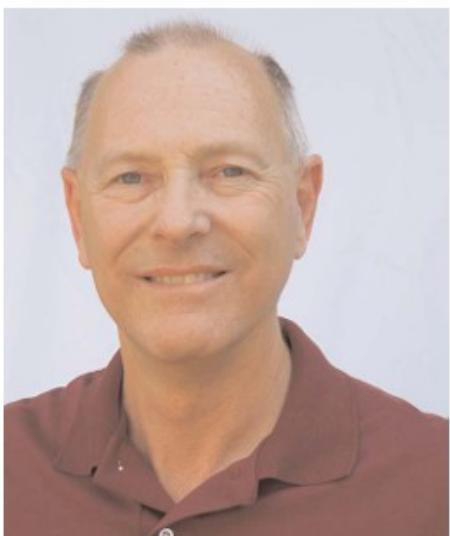
## BOB LANDWEHR Director-at-large



Hi – My name is Bob Landwehr and I'm running for Midwest Region Director at Large. I have been in love with model railroading ever since I was a child and have been an active NMRA member since 2011. For the past 4 years I've been running the monthly Fox Valley Division

contests and in February 2015 I undertook the challenge of computerizing the Regional Achievement Program(AP) awards thanks in part from my bachelors degree in computer science from Northern Illinois University. My AP certificate goals for this season include Volunteer, Civil and Electrical. With so much enthusiasm I look forward to supporting and promoting the hobby. Thank you for your support and consideration as a candidate for the DAL.

## JIM LANDWEHR Director-at-large (Incumbent)



Hi- My name is James Landwehr and I'm running for re-election as a Midwest Region Director-At-Large. During my first term (2014-2016) I attended every meeting of the Board of Directors. I became the Midwest Regional

Achievement Program Manager, in assisting members on their journey through the achievement program.

I have held continuous membership with the NMRA since 2006. Over the years of membership, I have had the opportunity to be increasingly involved in the NMRA. As a Fox Valley Division board member since 2007, my role allowed me to further develop the Achievement Program and monthly contests. My responsibilities afforded me the opportunity to assist division members on their journey through the AP program and promote and increase the monthly contest participation.

I hope to be able to continue to serve you as an MWR Director-At-Large for two more years, please vote for me.

## FRED ROBINSON Director-at-Large

I am Fred Robinson and I solicit your vote to be a director at large for the Midwest Region. I have modeled trains (played with) all of my life. A Marx set at 2, my first Lionel set at 4, and a switch to HO at 20.



I've built layouts in N, HO, O, and G. I presently have a new HO layout under construction and a promissory note to my wife for a garden railroad in the spring. Maybe I can complete these projects. I say maybe because in a career spanning 40 years I've moved over a dozen times.

I am a Life Member of the NMRA. I was a annual member from 1965 until 1974 when I converted to life member status. But, I contribute the equivalent of annual dues to the NMRA each year.

Currently I'm a member of the SCWD, I was a member of the DuPage Division of the MWR from 1980 to 1988. A job transfer took me to the PCR from 1988 to 1992. Then it was back to the MWR DuPage Division in 1992 followed by joining the WISE Division in 1998.

I was an active volunteer at "TrainFest" from 1999 to my retirement in 2005. Retirement brought me to the SCWD. I have been active in my SCWD membership and am presently in my third year as Clinic Chairman. I also volunteer at the "Mad City Train Show".

I think having been in three different divisions of the MWR gives a broad view. It's a view I can bring to the position of director at large.

**In memoriam Andy Sperandeo**

Andy Sperandeo, former Model Railroader editor, dies

By Kevin P. Keefe | October 5, 2015

WAUKESHA, Wis. Longtime Model Railroader editor Andy Sperandeo died Oct. 3, in Brookfield, after a long illness. He was 70.

Sperandeo joined the Model Railroader staff in 1979. Over the years he worked his way up through the ranks, becoming editor in 1993 and, later, executive editor. Most recently he was editor of Model Railroader's annual Great Model Railroads issue. He was also a prolific author for Kalmbach Books.

Sperandeo's expertise extended to all facets of the model-railroad hobby, but he was especially known for his

command of realistic train operations, as reflected in his popular column in the magazine, "The Operators."

"Andy was an excellent model builder, a diligent researcher, and a meticulous editor," says Model Railroader Editor Neil Besougloff. "We will remember all of that, but mostly we remember that Andy was our close friend."

A renowned expert on the Santa Fe, Sperandeo was active in the Santa Fe Railway Historical & Modeling Society, as well as the National Model Railroad Association. His home layout is a faithful interpretation of the Santa Fe's main line through California's Cajon Pass in the late 1940s.

Sperandeo was a native of New Orleans. He earned his B.A. in English from Loyola of the South, an M.A. from Louisiana State University, and was working on his Ph.D. in English from the University of Texas when Model Railroader lured him to Milwaukee in 1979.

## 2016 Spring    **John Smallshaw WISE Div. 1<sup>st</sup> Supt. Passed**

### President's Report By Paul Mangan, President, MWR NMRA



Trains, time and tide wait for no one. That being said, we have yet another division in the Midwest Region hitting that golden birthday. Happy 50th Anniversary to

the Wisconsin South Eastern Division of the MWR NMRA. Chartered on January 9th, 1966 the WISE division has grown to what it is today. Sponsoring one of the Nation's largest train shows is only one of the many successful accomplishments on record. When organizations of this type hit milestones such as this it happens not only because of strong and solid leadership at the top but also because of a dedicated membership that stays active and involved within the organization.

In the time I have served on the MWR Board we have had SCWD, CID, IVD, Winnebagoland and now WISE Division join the golden club. Once again, congratulations to all members of the WISE Division on your 50th Anniversary.

On a sadder note, I have been informed by Joe Russ that John Smallshaw, the WISE

Division's first Superintendent passed on January 26th 2016. On behalf of the Midwest Region of the NMRA I wish to extend our condolences to John's family and friends. May he rest in peace. A memorial service is tentatively scheduled for March.

As you all should know the Central Indiana Division of the MWR is sponsoring the Highball to Indy NMRA National convention. This event is only a short drive from most of our divisions and with the price of gas so low it would be an inexpensive drive there. If you haven't signed up as of yet you may want to consider attending this one. To new members, this is our yearly celebration of our hobby. Seven days of trains, trains and oh ya trains. Come on down and join us.

Because we have a division in the region hosting the National we do not have a spring convention. We still are mandated to hold an annual meeting of members and a Midwest region Board of Directors meeting. This spring the meeting of members will take place in Madison Wisconsin hosted by the South Central Wisconsin Division at their combined meet with the Rock River Valley Division. The location is the Zor Shrine Temple on Madison's West side at 575 Zor Shrine Place, Madison WI. The Meeting of Members will be conducted at the beginning of the meet that starts at 1:00 pm.

Prior to the division meet the MWR Board of Directors will hold our spring meeting. This

**Continued on following page**

## 2016 Spring

Continued from page 1  
meeting will come to order at 10:00am at the same location. I would like to thank Bob McGeever and the SCWD for hosting our meeting.

All of the above meetings are open to NMRA members. You may come in and observe the board meeting and attend the meeting of members and you are invited to stay for the activities of the regular division meet. Keep in mind that the NMRA is a national organization and as a member you are able to attend any division meets or functions. You are only able to vote and hold office in your home division.

Spring is election season in a lot of divisions and at the region and national levels as well. Even if someone is running unopposed it is nice to know that there is support for what they are doing. This is a volunteer organization; nobody gets paid for the volunteer positions so when you take a position on, it is nice to know that people do appreciate what you're doing.

Better yet if you're not happy with the way things are going instead of grumbling about it why not jump up and do something about it. Get your name on a ballot and run for a position on the board at your division. This is a good place to start and learn how a board of directors works if you haven't had this kind of experience in the past. The rewards are only satisfaction and the feeling that you are really doing something to help others. So the next time someone asks you "Do you want to run for election?" it could be they think you would be good for this position. Think hard before you respond to the question. The person that asked you just may be correct. Good things happen when people stand up and take on these positions.

Have a great spring  
Paul

## Region News

### Midwest Region Achievement Program Report by Jim Landwehr- MWR AP Manager

Great news regarding the Achievement Program! We now have a brand new Master Model Railroader in our Midwest Region! It is my pleasure to announce that on January 1 2016 National awarded Master model Railroad #572 to Minton Dings of Havana, Illinois. He earned his certificates in the category of cars, civil, author, structures, electrical, scenery, and volunteer. If you know Minton or see him at a meet, be sure to congratulate him on this major achievement in the hobby. From everyone in the Midwest Region, congratulations Minton on earning Master Model Railroader #572!

I am happy to report that there has been some activity from our members. They continue to take part in the Achievement Program all over the Midwest Region. The following members received

#### AP Certificates:

<b>Minton Dings,</b>	<b>Havana, IL</b>	<b>Cars</b>
<b>Minton Dings,</b>	<b>Havana, IL</b>	<b>Civil</b>
<b>Daniel Brewer,</b>	<b>Granger, IN</b>	<b>Volunteer</b>
<b>Minton Dings,</b>	<b>Havana, IL</b>	<b>MMR</b>

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

Thanks,  
Jim Landwehr, MWR AP Manager

Spring Board Meeting

**2016 Summer**

# Waybill

Mid West Region NMRA –  
Summer 2016

## President's Report

By Paul Mangan, President, MWR



**Paul Mangan**

I'd like to begin this report by thanking the South Central Wisconsin Division and Superintendent Bob McGeever for hosting the Midwest Region Board of Directors meeting. I'd like to also thank all of the Board mem-

bers who took the time to join us at the meeting. The work of the region board is important to the structure of the NMRA. Without this structure the NMRA would not exist for very long.

That being said I would like to welcome new division directors Mike Hirvela (Fox Valley Division) and Jay Kabitze (Rock River Valley) to the Board and also new Director at Large Bob Landwehr. Fred Robinson, Paul Wussow and Jim Landwehr were re-elected to a second term. The nomination process for the next election is now under way. We will be electing a new President, Vice-President and three Directors at Large for two year terms. If you would like to serve on the Board of Directors all you need to do at this point in time is to get in touch with Fred Robinson to learn how to go about getting on the ballot. Fred's contact information can be found at the MWR web site.

The Board meeting was held at Madison because the MWR convention is not held in the year that a National Convention is sponsored by a division within the Region. This year the Central Indiana Division is hosting the Highball to Indy 2016 conven-

tion. If you haven't signed up yet why wait any longer, sit down and get the paperwork done before all the good stuff has sold out.

The day to hold the meeting was chosen because it is the yearly combined meeting of the Rock River Valley Division with the South Central Wisconsin Division. It was SCWD's turn to host the meeting and a large amount of RRVD members made the trip up to Madison to join us.

At the meeting Jay Kabitze announced that RRVD will be hosting the 2017 MWR convention. The name of the convention will be called Rock River Valley Golden Rail Midwest Region Convention. The name reflects the fact that it will be the Golden Anniversary for RRVD. Circle the date of April 28, 29 and 30, 2017. The convention hotel is the Holiday Inn Rockford IL. The committee is assembling all the details for a great convention and will release them when they become available.



Left to right, Back Row; Bob Blake, Jim Landwehr, Reid Kahrs, Bob Landwehr, David Johnson, Middle row; Bob McGeever, Jim Osborn, Fred Robinson, Jay Kabitze, Minton Dings, Paul Wussow Gary Children. Front row, Mike Hirvela, Bert Lattan, Keith Thomsen, Steve Studley and Paul Mangan.





### **Editor's Column**

I received a nice email from Wayne Wesolowski MMR:

For many years I was a MWR member (NMRA since 1959) and totally enjoyed the variety of activities and the many friends I made over the years.

I don't know if you have shared this with the Division members, but MWR Past President Jim O'Toole passed away in 2015. Below is a brief personal comment.

Jim O'Toole 1941-2015

Jim passed away in 2015 from heart complications. He was a gregarious promoter of model railroading and the NMRA, working in numerous division positions including MWR President. After serving in the Navy, he was a draftsman in the days without a computer and among other positions worked for the Binks Airbrush Company.

Jim and E



I got a phone call one day from Jim that the scrap metal company in Franklin Park near his office was salvaging optical screws—0-80, 00-90, even 000-120. The workers were emptying paper boxes of screws into cans and then melting them just for the brass. I could get a coffee can of optical screws for \$1/pound. Now that's a friend.

When he and Esther moved to the high country of New Mexico there were two additional buildings constructed—one for the layout and one for the shop...oh, and a house. Of course he jumped into NMRA activities and was running shows, meetings and swap meets from Albuquerque to Las Cruces.

For family reasons, they moved to Georgia where another railroad was growing in the basement at the time of his passing.

Jim is survived by his wife Esther, two daughters, three grandchildren and one great grandchild.

I will miss his infectious enthusiasm for everything trains.

Wayne Wesolowski

## 2016 Fall

### Editor's Column

The next Board Meeting will be on Sunday October 2nd at 10:30 am local time. This will be after the Michiana Division's Education and Training conference and Workshops that is being held on September 30 and October 1st. For more information on the conference, see page 5.

The next MWR convention is being hosted by the Rockford Division in conjunction with their 50 year anniversary. They have several fine clinics lined up and the festivities will kick off with a "Hobo" Grill at the Rochelle Railroad Park. For more information on that event, see page 4, or go to the MWR webpage.

Speaking of the Rochelle Railroad Park The Fox valley division had its annual outing there on Saturday, August 20. Over 30 members and guests came to watch the action while having brats, hamburgers and pulled pork prepared by our resident griller, Bob Shlemon Jr.. Although interrupted by a few brief showers, everyone had a great time.



Action on both tracks is not uncommon as can be seen on this photo of a freight drag rolling by a container train.



Here are just some of the members having a good time.  
Left to right:  
Don Cook MMR, Bob Teuber, Bert Lattan,  
Mike Wood and Division Super, Mike Hirvela.

2016 Winter

## President's Report

# Waybill

Mid West Region NMRA –  
Winter 2016



### President's Report

By Paul Mangan, President, MWR



**Paul Mangan**

after Halloween. I do like the indoors at this time of year.

Our MWR Fall Board of Directors meeting was held at the campus of Notre Dame on the first weekend of October in conjunction with the Michiana division's Education & Training conference. This year's theme was 'Modeling Like a PROtotype'. A lot of the board members came down early to partake in the conference offerings before the meeting on Sunday morning. I once again want to thank Bob Blake, Michiana Division Superintendent, for hosting our meeting. To those who have not taken advantage of this program I encourage you to look into it next year. It is a wonderful opportunity to attend some first class clinics that may help you improve your skills.

At our board meeting I encouraged the board to consider things that the Midwest Region can do to help our divisions find ways of attracting new members. This has been an issue in all hobbies not just ours. I have asked the board to come up with some ideas and present them at the spring board meeting in Rockford.

Most of us in the MWR know that November is Trainfest month. That great event happened again this year on Nov. 12 & 13 at State Fair Park in Milwaukee. A large attendance as usual came through the door to enjoy everything Railroad. Madison HoTrak has been setting up at Trainfest for a lot longer than I have been involved with

I really don't like to start out a report with a weather report but the seasons will always be changing and what we do in the hobby changes as the seasons change. Although some G scalers will run their railroad in the snow I for one take mine down the day

this modular group and we all had a good time as usual.

This year's Celebrate a Railroad theme was the Milwaukee Road. A large section was set aside as a mini museum with as much information about this railroad as you could put into it. Wow, great history lesson.

Something new that started last year was the show staff has given the opportunity for attendees who display at the show to volunteer and help out with staffing. I had the opportunity to work in the Make and Take area where you would help kids assemble a passenger station. I had two young ladies sit down with their kits and these two were fun to watch as they only needed me to cut the stuff off the sprues and they figured it all out and built the stations themselves. Hopefully we will see these ladies later in life as great model railroaders.

I also had a chance to talk with NMRA V.P. Clark Kooning. Clark always attends Trainfest with a group from Canada. There was also some of the MWR staff in attendance; Dave Leider, your Waybill editor was there along with past region Secretary Bert Lattan and current treasurer Keith Thomsen just to name a few.

Another Trainfest is in the books. Thanks to the trainfest staff and the WISE Division for this great show.

The Mad City Model Railroad Show and Sale is just around the corner on February 18 and 19 2017. This year's show will be their 50th continuous show. Fifty years ago the SCWD decided to host an open house in downtown Madison WI. They expected about 45 or so to show up. When over three hundred came thru the door and all refreshments were gone they decided to keep it going. It has been doing real good.

There will be a few special prizes this year including a drawing for a round trip ticket for two on the Empire Builder. There will also be many other door prizes each hour including 4 train sets per day for kids 5 to 11 years. See more information in this Waybill on page 7. Hope to see you at the show.

Now for the big event! Our Midwest Region spring convention is coming up fast. April 28, 29 and 30th 2017 the Rock River Valley Division will host Golden Rails MWR Convention. This will be celebrating the 50th anniversary of

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the Rock River Valley Division. Come on out and help them celebrate this milestone. You can go to their site for all the info on what's going on.

<http://www.2017mwrconvention.com/>

Regional conventions are a bit more pocket book friendly than national conventions so if you want to sample what goes on at conventions this is a great place to start.

Election time is here. Like all other volunteer organizations these days we have problems finding people to run for positions on boards. We have a slate that has one person for each position. I encourage you to vote anyway so you can at least show these folks that have stepped up that they have your support. Believe me they who serve do like to hear this.

All the Best  
Paul

## Region News

### Spring Board Meeting

**Holiday Inn  
7550 East State Street  
Rockford, Illinois**

**Sunday, April 30, 2017, 10:30 am**

### Midwest Region Achievement Program Report by Jim Landwehr- MWR AP Manager

My fall trip took me out east. We stopped at a place called Entertainment Junction just north of Cincinnati off of I 75. This 25,000 sq. ft. G scale layout is housed in an 80,000 sq. ft. warehouse building. The layout is divided into three different time periods of railroading from early days of steam-engine up through today's modern diesel locomotives.

Imagination Junction has a 5,000 sq. ft play area. There is an interactive train where kids can shovel coal, and interactive train layouts including Thomas. Also, kids can ride hand-cranked railroad cars around an outdoor track. This a kid's dream come true!

If you are hungry or tired, you can eat, drink, and relax at the Junction Café. It overlooks a charming 1930's town square. Folks young and old may have a birthday party celebration there. Entertainment Junction also has a great Hobby Shop including supplies and building materials. The Gift Shop has a good selection of train related memorabilia. Entertainment Junction is one of those must see places for train lovers!

I am happy to report that there has been some activity from our members. They continue to take part in Achievement Program all over the Midwest Region. The following members received awards:

Michael Vivion	Fitchburg, WI	Volunteer
Larry Enlow	Bellville, WI	Volunteer
Charles Kapelenia	Cottage Gr., WI	Volunteer
Ken Reigle	Fitchburg, WI	Volunteer
Don Tolley	Fitchburg, WI	Volunteer
Kenith Thomsen	Fitchburg, WI	Official
Bill Clancy Jr.	Verona, WI	Scenery
Scott Willoughby	Spring Valley, IL	Volunteer
Jeremy Bubb	Vermont, IL	Volunteer
Fred Robinson	Richland Center, WI	Volunteer
Philip Berry	Mc Farland, WI	Volunteer
Rick Saviano	Wheaton, IL	Volunteer
Rich Saviano	Wheaton, IL	Author

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

Thanks,  
Jim Landwehr,  
MWR Achievement Program Manager

### Remember Model Railroading Month

**November is Model Railroading Month.**

## 2016 Winter

## ELECTION

### STEVE STUDLEY President

Hello. It's Steve Studley once again asking for your support in the upcoming Midwest Region (MWR) election. I am finishing my second, and last permissible, consecutive term as Vice President and am now seeking the office of MWR President. I continue to serve as Past Superintendent of the Central Indiana Division (until May, 2018) and am currently finishing up the duties as chair of the Highball to Indy 2016 National Model Railroad Association (NMRA) National Convention. At the region level, I chair the 501(c)(3) committee seeking tax exempt status for the region.



Penny and I have both been retired now for a bit over five years. With this freedom we enjoy traveling to the region conventions and Board meetings and being able to spend some extra time exploring the host cities. Now that work on the national convention is (almost) over, I am looking forward to actually being able to work on my railroad, meeting with our local club, and continue serving on the Division and Region Boards of Directors. In a previous bio I mentioned that I have earned four Achievement Program (AP) certificates. Hopefully there will be time to continue work on other AP certificates.

I would appreciate your vote allowing me to continue to serve, you, the members of the Midwest Region for two more years as President. I look forward to working with the other Board members while carrying out the business of the Midwest Region.

Steve Studley

### REID KAHRS Vice President



I joined the NMRA after attending the 1985 convention held in Milwaukee. I've been a (WISE) Wisconsin Southeastern Division board member, serving as a Division Delegate, Assistant Superintendent, Superintendent and Chief Clerk. Currently I am serving as WISE Superintendent, again. During the twenty five

years on the WISE board I've helped at Trainfest with setup and during the train show. I have served the Midwest Region as delegate-at-large for two terms (four years) my term ending in April, 2005. Currently I serve as region convention committee chairman. My wife, Chip, and I regularly attend regional and national NMRA conventions. I was the chairman for the 2010 NMRA convention held in Milwaukee. I am a member of the Milwaukee Road Historical Association and belong to NMRA Operations SIG.

I retired from the City of Milwaukee and now live in Colgate, Wisconsin. During the years since moving here I have been preparing the basement for my layout. I have been operating on many home layouts and with opsig groups during the past 10 to 12 years.

I would like to serve you as your MWR Vice President. I enjoyed my previous terms as DAL. Thank you for your vote.

### DAN BREWER

#### Director-at-Large (incumbent)

Personal: My name is Dan Brewer, and I live in Granger, Indiana, am married, and have three grown children and two grandchildren.

Professional Background: For the last 18 years, I have worked as an IT Procurement Specialist at the University of Notre Dame. I am responsible for the procurement of technology products and services, managing bids for the acquisition of enterprise applications, vendor contracting/relations, coordinating tech specifications with the Office of Information Technologies and technical staffs in departments, FCC Licensing, and business processes related to IT Procurement. Before working at ND, I managed sales staffs for several technology resellers. I began my sales career at the Heath Company in Benton Harbor Michigan.



Hobby Experience & Interests: My love of trains began in the 1950s with my father building a large Lionel layout in our basement, and taking evening rides with our family to the train tracks in Buchanan, Michigan where we'd watch the trains. Over the past 10 years, I've worked on a large [Legacy control system] Lionel layout in my basement with the help of my brother Tim, and my grandson Jacob. I have also built a 4x8 N scale DCC controlled layout, and am now designing a two deck HO scale layout based on NS operations in north-central Indiana. Because of my technology background, my modeling always

## 2016 Winter

## ELECTION

includes as much technology as makes sense. I enjoy layout design and am a member of the Layout Design SIG and OPSIG.

**NMRA Experience:** I joined the NMRA in March of 2012, and have held the office of Assistant Superintendent for four years. During that time I have managed registration for the four Michiana Division Education and Training Conferences, produced marketing materials for those events, and acted as division webmaster. I am interested in continuing as a Midwest Region At-Large Board member so that I can continue to serve the NMRA as I am able, to increase my awareness of issues and opportunities facing the organization and our region, and to learn more about our organization and the hobby in general.

### **GARY CHILDREN** **Director-at-Large (Incumbent)**



I am a candidate for Director at Large of the Midwest Region. I was appointed to fill the position of a person who was elected for the position of superintendent. I would like to run another term as Director at Large. I have been region President, Vice President, Model and Photo Chair for the region. There are things between the region and division that need to be

worked out. National has come with some things that also need to be worked out including the 501c3 tax exemption.

We as a region can work them out with the help of all region people. I am a life member and model the Wisconsin Central, Southern and Santa Fe in S gauge. I have been railroading since the age of 5 with a Lionel train set at Christmas. At 15 I changed to HO gauge and at 55 went to S gauge. I also help restore Car 26 at the East Troy Trolley Museum. Thank you for your support. Gary E. Children

### **MINTON DINGS MMR** **Director-at-Large (Incumbent)**

For many of us model railroading is a way of life. For me it has been a growing passion for the last fifty three years beginning with a pike, which folded down over my bed in my teen years, to the present half basement Green River Branch of the Illinois Central Railroad in 1957.

I have been a member of the NMRA at two differ-

ent times, in the 1980's and since 2001. Presently I am the Assistant Superintendent of the Illinois Valley Division and the editor of the IVD's newsletter, the *TIMETABLE*. All areas of model railroading are of interest to me with a particular passion for scenery and a commitment to share what I have learned with other model railroaders. I feel education is an essential mission of the NMRA and the Midwest Region.

In completing the requirements for the designation of Master Model Railroader, I came to the realization that MMR is truly an attainable award for most of our membership. During the last two years I have promoted the Achievement Program, taught clinics on model railroading skills and have written articles on model railroading which are available to model railroaders simply for the asking. I will be continuing to support the hobby in this manner.

I would be honored to serve the Midwest Region for a second term as a director at large, supporting its programs and activities, especially in the areas of member recruitment and education.

#### Address and Telephone Information:

15548 SR 78  
Havana, Illinois 62644-6803  
(309)543-6872

## National News

### Welcome to the NMRA InfoNet News (Infoblast) For November 2016

Notice of Winter BOD meeting in Atlanta

The Winter Board of Directors meeting will once again be held in Atlanta, Georgia, on February 18, and 19, 2017 at the Drury Inn & Suites. The Budget and Operations meeting will begin at 2:00 PM on Friday, February 17, and the Board will be in caucus that evening. Both of those meetings are only open to invited guests.

The regular, open session of the BOD meeting begins at 9:00 AM on Saturday, February 18. Because the agenda is not yet finalized, there's no way to tell if the meeting will continue on Sunday. All members are invited to attend the open sessions. Watch [www.nmra.org](http://www.nmra.org) for details.

# Waybill

Mid West Region NMRA –  
Spring 2017

## President's Report

By Paul Mangan, President, MWR



**Paul Mangan**

Don served on the MWR Board for as long as I have been on the board and served in many positions. His last position was election committee chair. Don will be missed by all of us and our condolences go out to his family and all of his friends.

As I write this last report as your president, I can't help but say that it has been a very rewarding four years. In my 10 years being part of the MWR Board of directors I have had the amazing opportunity to visit all of the division, either at train shows, regional conventions or at the fall board meetings when a division hosts a meeting for us.

I want to thank all of the people who served and put up with me on the board. (Special thanks to the region secretaries) Also I want to thank all of the Division boards and officers who have answered the call to serve our fellow modelers.

The Train show season is well underway and I will be going to four shows and will be displaying with the Madison HoTrak modular group. We will be setting up at the Mad City Model Railroad Show and Sale. This year on February 18th and 19th the SCWD is celebrating the 50th anniversary of this show. In celebrat-



I'm very sorry to start this report on a sad note as a longtime member of the NMRA and the Midwest Region, Don Cook passed away. Don succumbed to a very aggressive condition that took a lot of us by surprise.

ing this event there will be a grand prize drawing of a round trip ticket for two on Amtrak's Empire Builder. This is along with the hourly drawings and the train set for youth four times each day.

In March HoTrak also travels up to LaCrosse WI to set up at their show. This gives me the opportunity to visit with friends in the Thousand Lakes Region. This year the show is on March 18th and 19th.

On March 25th and 26th we travel to Rockford for their train show. We always have a great time with the members of the RRVF and other groups from the region that set up at their show.

April 28th – 30th we make the trip to Rockford for another celebration. In case you haven't heard, the Rock River Valley Division is hosting the Midwest Region Spring Convention. The convention is named "Golden Rails" to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Rock River Valley Division. If you haven't signed up yet you can still join us so come on down. I want to thank the members and the board of the RRVF for sponsoring this convention celebrating our great hobby.

And then, Show number 4 will be Trainfest in November. Hoping our paths will cross at one or more of these events.

The Midwest Region Spring Board of Directors meeting will be Sunday morning April 30th at the close of the Golden Rails convention. This will be my final duty as my term ends and your new president, Steve Studly and Vice President Reid Kahrs take the helm. We also have new directors at large being installed, Gary Children, Dan Brewer and Minton Dings. Thanks to all for volunteering to let your names stand.

Volunteers are the life blood of any organization like ours. If you have thought about volunteering yourself then take the next step. Jump in and get your feet wet. You can start in your own division or run for a

Continued from page 1

region board position. Another region election is next year when four directors at large will be on the ballot. No special training required just bring a lot of desire to serve the hobby.

In closing I will say thanks one more time to all of you who have volunteered and worked hard at keeping our hobby one of the best in the world.

### **Editor's Column**

Paul Mangan already commented on the unfortunate death of Don Cook, MMR. Don was an excellent modeler and good friend, although I did not get a chance to see his layout until after his death. But his memory will live on, as his wife graciously donated his photo collection to me in care of the Soo Line Historical & Technical Society. I have already given his Northwestern slides to the C&NWHS and will do the same with the Milwaukee, GN and CB&Q.

If you have a photo collection, please make arrangements to give it to a historical society. They are always in need of photos for articles or people doing research. Most will give the photos they do not need to the correct society.

There are still several train shows to visit before summer. The Springfield Train fair is March 19 in Springfield, IL; the La Crosse and 3 Rivers Train show is March 18 and 19; the Rock River Valley Train show is March 25-26 at Jefferson High School in Rockford. Speaking of Rockford, do not forget to register for the Midwest Regional meet in Rockford on April 28, 29 and 30. A registration form is on page 7 or for more information go to



rrvd-nmra.com  
Finally, the Titletown Train show is April 29 and 30 in Green Bay. Add in the "O" Scale meet also on March 19 and 20 and there is plenty to do!

I hope to see you at least one of these events.

## 2017 Summer Steve Studley Becomes MWR President

# Waybill

Mid West Region NMRA –  
Summer 2017

### President's Report

Steve Studley President, MWR

The Midwest Region (MWR) Board of Directors meeting held Sunday, April 30 marked the end of Paul Mangan's second term as President of the Region. Thank you, Paul, for your outstanding service to the Board over the last four years. Never fear, though, he's not done yet. Paul continues on the Board as Immediate Past President, Chair of the Long Range Planning Committee, and representative to the National Model Railroad Association (NMRA) Regional Advisory Council (RAC). Paul takes over the Past President position from Bill Litkenhous. Thanks, Bill, for your years of service on the Board.

Another change on the Board was that of M. David Johnson who needed to step down from his position on the Board. David, thanks for serving as Secretary. We'll miss you at our Board meetings. Paul Wussow has agreed to take David's place as Secretary. Thank you, Paul, for agreeing to move to this position.

My name is Steve Studley. I'm pleased to have been elected to be your Region President for the next two years. I'd like to extend a hearty handshake to all the MWR members. We can accomplish that handshake as we meet at various MWR events. When you see me at these events, stop by and say hello. My wife, Penny, and I live in Bloomington, IN.; are members of the Central Indiana Division (CID); and both of us have been retired from Indiana University for the past five and a half years. We were able to fill up a lot of that "spare" retirement time by helping to host Highball to Indy 2016 last July. Penny served as Non-Rail Chair and I was the Chair of the Host Committee for the Convention. I am also the current Past Superintendent of the CID and serve the Region as the alternate RAC representative.

Taking over my former position on the Board



is Reid Kahrs, who is your new Vice President. Reid is also the Convention Chair and in charge of Promotions and Special Projects. As mentioned above, Paul Wussow is the new Secretary. He also serves as Chair of the Clinic Clearing House and is the Illinois Registered Agent for the Region. Keith Thomsen retains his position as Region Treasurer. With Paul Wussow moving to the Secretary position, that left his former position as Director-at-Large (DAL) open. Fred Henize has agreed to serve the last year of Paul's term in that DAL position. Glad to have you on the Board, Fred. When Don Cook passed away we lost not only a great modeler, but also the Chair to the Election Committee. Fortunately, Jim Osborn has stepped up to take on that position. Helping Jim on the committee will be Bert Lattan. Thanks to both of you for serving. There is one more change of position to note. With Reid Kahrs moving to the Vice President position, his Wisconsin Southeastern Division Director position will be filled (after June 1) by Peter Lakatos. Welcome to the Board, Peter. Whew... that's a lot of changes. I'd like to, once again, thank all those who were willing to accept new/different positions on the Board. It's easier to take care of the work needed to keep the Region operating when we have a full complement of Board members.

This year's Midwest Region Convention, "Golden Rails", was sponsored by the Rock River Valley Division. It was held in Rockford, IL from April 28-30, and coincided with the division's fiftieth anniversary (yes, there was an anniversary cake). The convention began Friday morning with a Hobo Grill held at the Rochelle Railroad Park. Trains were running early, followed later in the day by a pesky rain and the maintenance crews welding on the diamonds.

Continued from page 1

Not to worry, though, as grilled brats and hotdogs, and many conversations, were in abundance as we gathered in the pavilion staying dry awaiting the few trains that ran in the afternoon. Friday evening's offerings included clinics at the hotel and operations on three area layouts. Saturday offered more clinics in the morning and area layout tours in the afternoon. The contest room was busy with judging and then viewing for both the photo and model contests. Bidding continued for the silent auction. For the Non-Rail attendees, there was a contingent working on Project Linus in the hotel and several self-guided tours to visit local points of interest. The banquet was held Saturday evening. It included good food (I already mentioned the cake), entertainment by "Trinadora" (Ron Holm and Jannie Nelson), who performed familiar train songs. There was a musical slide show presented by Jerry Pyfer titled "In Dreams – Looking Back at the Milwaukee Road in the Midwest". A brief MWR Annual Members' Meeting was held along with the announcement of the silent auction results and the awarding of a multitude of door prizes. The evening proved to be a great way to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Rock River Valley Division. Happy Anniversary! The MWR Board of Directors met on Sunday morning and there were layouts open for touring that afternoon. Thanks to all who helped put on the convention. It's a wonderful time to get together with friends and share in the hobby.

Our special guest for the weekend was NMRA President, Charlie Getz. Charlie was here to help celebrate the 50th anniversary. He also presented two clinics, spoke at the banquet, and attended the business meeting of the MWR Board of Directors on Sunday morning. Thanks for visiting, Charlie. We appreciate hearing about what's happening at the National level.

Future conventions include the NMRA National Convention and National Train Show to be held July 30 - August 6 in Orlando, FL. At the Sunday MWR Board meeting, the bid from the South Central Wisconsin Division for the 2018 MWR Convention was accepted. The convention, "Capitol 400", will be held in Madison, WI next April 13-15, 2018. For more information: <http://www.nmra-s cwd.org/convention.html>

In the meantime – back to the layout!

~

## Region News

### 2017 Election

Petition Deadline Is August 15, 2017

Although the 2018 election is several months away, it is time to start the election cycle. In 2017 we will elect four directors at large.

By serving the Midwest Region and your fellow NMRA members as a Director-at-Large for two terms (four years), you will qualify for the Association Official certificate under the NMRA Achievement Program. You will also meet many NMRA members from other Divisions and perhaps form lasting friendships.

There are two ways that your name can be placed on the ballot. The first is by recommendation of the Nominating Committee and approval of the Board of Directors. To be considered by the Nominating Committee (Chairman Fred Robinson from the South Central Wisconsin Division and members Dan Brewer from the Michiana Division and Lou Venema from the Central Indiana Division), you must submit a biography/candidate's statement of 200 words or less and a 2x2, passport-style photo to the Committee with a copy to the Region Secretary (Paul Wussow) as soon as possible, but no later than August 15, 2017.

The preferred method of delivery is electronic mail. (While e-mail is not required to serve on the Board, it is highly desirable since the Board conducts pre and post meeting activity by e-mail.) If you do not have e-mail, you may mail your bio/photo to Paul Wussow, who will convert it to an electronic format and send it to the Committee. Addresses and e-mail addresses for the Committee and the Secretary are on the Board of Directors page of the Region website ([www.mwr-nmra.org](http://www.mwr-nmra.org)).

The second method is by petition signed by at least ten (10) current NMRA members who live in the Midwest Region. The petition form is available on the Region website or it may be requested from Paul Wussow. Your petition must be accompanied by a biography/candidate's statement of 200 words or less and a 2x2, passport-style photo. It must be received by Paul Wussow no later than August 15, 2017. He will convert it to an electronic format and forward it to the Committee.

## 2017 Fall

### Tales of the Cat Mountain Railroad Vs. Nature

Paul Mangan

I hope your summer has been going well. Unfortunately this tale has to do with Mother Nature and the world of outdoor modeling of a railroad. When you are dealing with the elements you get to know what the prototype railroads go through on a much smaller scale of course. G- Scale to be precise.

On a pleasant evening in July my wife Kathy and I went to an outdoor theater west of Madison WI to enjoy a play. After our pre play picnic we heard thunder in the background. We were then told by the staff that tornados were in the area and we needed to go to the shelter. Things went downhill from there. It took about an hour before the main part of the storm passed and the show was called off.



We were riding with a group of friends that evening and were given the clearance to leave. With SCWD member Donn Tolley at the helm we headed back to Madison. It was not a smooth ride as the back side of the storm hit us while we were on the road but our skipper kept us on spot and we made it home.

When we arrived home we noticed there was a power failure as the entire neighborhood was dark. We then got our candles out and hunkered down for the night. In the morning I looked out the window and saw that two large trees had been uprooted and fell across the Cat Mountain Railroad. Wow, what a mess. It looked like a total disaster and I thought the whole layout was trashed.

While on the inspection tour it looked a little more promising. Both trees had fallen without any serious damage to the railroad. All the buildings can be glued back together. The few cars on the track were just knocked over. The main road through the village however did not fare as well though as the pavement buckled when the tree roots pushed upward as they fell.

With the exception of the Cat Ale Brewery siding being shifted about a G-scale quarter mile and a bridge abutment being pushed down a bit this point damage to the layout appeared minimal. I did find a sink hole under the road crossing but fortunately nothing fell in.

The first order of business will be to get the trains running to get the supplies up to the mountain. Then put the buildings (about 10) back together starting with the brewery, Ha! The MWR convention will be here before you know it so I need to have it in Train Shape (not Ship Shape).

I want to say thanks to all the lumber jacks that came out to clear the wood. I'll keep everyone updated. Mother Nature, you won this one but we'll be baaaack!  
Cat Mountain Work Crew  
Chain Saw Paul



**2017 Winter**

## **INGRID DROZDACK PASSES**

### **Editor's Column**

Anyone who ever went to a regional convention has to know Ingrid. She was the person behind the photo judging and



more often than not the ladies craft projects. Her smiling face always greeted those entering the contest room.

Unfortunately, Ingrid passed away this September.

At the last BOD meeting the Ingrid Drozdack Memorial Award for Best of Show Photographs was established in honor of her dedication and commitment to the NMRA.

**2017 Winter**



Neal Thomas has prepared a slide show of the Michiana Modeling like a Pro conference to give you an idea of what to expect. [CLICK HERE to download a PDF of 30+ photos.](#) Thanks Neil for the submission.

### 2018 Election Biographies for Directors-at-Large

Yes, it is once again election time. Up for election are four seats for Director-at Large. Please vote to show your support for the region. The ballot is on page 4.

#### Eric Peterson, Central Indiana Division

My interest in model railroading and railroads is due to building models and attending NMRA activities with my Father in the North Central Region. I am life member and support the NMRA because it is the organization for our hobby not only providing standards, recommended practices, publications, contests, and achievement awards but more importantly the social and educational activities we enjoy.



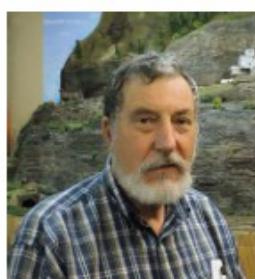
We recently moved from Jacksonville, FL to Carmel, IN to be near family. I was active in the Sunshine Region including serving as the Northern Division Superintendent and SSR Board. The Northern Division organized quarterly division meetings in the Jacksonville area including clinics, show and tell, and local club updates for area modelers. We have also had layout open houses, club visits, prototype field trip and some operating sessions.

My modeling started in HO and I have been modeling in O scale two rail since 1971. My sectional layout is now in the 6th different home due to work relocations.

I have also been active in the NMRA Achievement Program completing Author, Scenery and Electrical Certificates. I look forward to being involved on the Midwest Region.

#### Fred Henize, DuPage Division (Incumbent)

As most of us in the hobby of Model Railroading, I got started when I was about 8 or 9 years old with a Lionel set for Christmas. That soon grew to a layout made up of three 4



x 8 sheets of plywood. I learned how to build plaster scenery over screen wire. About the only problem I ever encountered was when I started pulling wiring thru that screen wire, and somewhere stripped some insulation. The entire railroad was hot-electrically speaking. Since then I have built layouts in HO, and now finally in N-scale.

I have been a member of the NMRA for over 25 years. In that time I have served the DuPage Division as a Director, contest committee chair, clerk, newsletter editor, assistant superintendent, as also as superintendent. I am working on the MMR certificate with three certificates completed and three more almost ready to submit for approval.

I enjoy teaching clinics for other Divisions as well as for the DuPage Division. I have also conducted clinics for the region as well as at a couple of national conventions. Having worked a few years for CSX, I also have a couple of prototype clinics I have done. I feel that my personal experiences in the hobby over the years can benefit other members of the hobby by sharing through being on the Midwest Region Board of Directors.

#### Bob Landwehr, Fox Valley Division (Incumbent)

Serving as Director-at-Large for the past 2 years has been a fulfilling and exciting experience. It has given me the opportunity to serve and meet the wonderful people from the Midwest Region.

I've been an active NMRA member since 2011. For the past 8 years I've been running the Fox Valley Division contests and continue to make enhancements on computerizing the Regional AP awards tracking. I completed my Volunteer AP award and have several other AP awards in the works, with an ultimate goal of obtaining a MMR.



I have always had a fascination with model railroading, whether it be building a layout or just running trains. I have this never ending enthusiasm for supporting and promoting the hobby. I would be honored to serve another term as the Midwest Region Director-at-Large.

**Jim Allen, Fox Valley Division**

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, Master Builder-Motive Power, Chief Dispatcher, Association Volunteer and Association Official.

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 Div., in cooperation with the Du Page Div., have been manning a NMRA membership table at the monthly Du Page train Show. With our Timesaver switching layout and our commercial display we have been able to draw enough attention to generate new interest in the NMRA, especially among 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.

RIGHT: Eric Peterson explaining a detail on one of his his highly detailed modules of Mineral Point Wisconsin and vicinity.

He brought this module to this years Michiana Conference held each fall on the campus of Notre Dame University in South Bend. It is an excellent conference and I highly recommend it. Eric is also running for Director-at-Large.

## Editor's Column

Well, another winter is almost behind us. Time to start thinking about those spring and summer activities. I will be presenting a clinic at the Midwest regional. If you have ever wondered about how potatoes were harvested, stored, shipped (by railway of course) and marketed, come see my clinic.

Recently I was thumbing through an old Model railroader. It was the one printed for their 50th anniversary- January 1984. Some interesting facts:

The average model railroader was a 40-year old college graduate, married, has children, earns \$30,000 per year and has been a model railroader for 17 years.

There were about 226,000 serious model railroaders who spent an average of \$590 a year. 76.5 % were in HO, 13.3% in N and 8.2% in O scale.

They predicted that by 2008 electronic medium would become dominant over print. They also lamented the fact that young people (remember this is 1983) read a lot less and wanted more photos and illustrations and less text.

It is with a heavy heart that I report that Richard Cecil passed away on February 16, 2018. Dick held many titles in the region, including president for several terms and superintendent of the WISE division. He was also a Milwaukee modeler and involved in the Trolley Museum at East Troy.

For many years he attended Norm Carlson's annual meeting of historical societies and museums. It was held around the time of his birthday in January and every year we wished him a Happy Birthday. When asked how old he was, he always said "older than dirt." You will be missed.



Dick Cecil at the East Troy Trolley Museum. The occasion is that the South Shore cars have arrived, delivered by the CN at Mukwonago, Wi. Photo by Dave Nelson.

## CORRECTION DEPARTMENT



Cover photo:

A Rio Grande freight emerges from street running in downtown Denver on Dr. Bill Clancy's Rio Grande Pacific, one of the railroads open for the Capitol 400

Last issue I mistakenly reported that Jim Allen had agreed to assume the position of model judge at the Region Conventions. I was wrong and Gary, pictured below at the NMRA booth at Mad City let me know in no uncertain terms. Gary Children is not retiring, Jim is assisting him. Sorry about that Gary.

Speaking of the model contest, in order to make the contest fairer and more accessible to more members, the BOD adopted the following policy: Any one entrant may submit a maximum of 10 total entries in a regional contest with a maximum of 3 entries in any one category of that contest.

Remember, no more than 10 total entries, so pick out your best and bring them along to Madison. Let's keep Gary and Jim busy.

## 2018 Summer

## Ingrid Drozdak Memorial Award

### Editor's Column

There is a lot of coverage of the Midwest Region convention in this issue. I will add my two cents here.

It was a great convention in spite of the weather, as you will gather from the articles. I had to be back in Chicago on Sunday morning as I had a booth at the Railroadiana Show. Unfortunately, I drove through the worst weather I had ever encountered: freezing rain, I could not see the edge of the interstate and a one hour complete stop south of Janesville.



On a more pleasant note, this was the first year of the Ingrid Drozdak Memorial Award pictured above. It was won by Jim Allen's excellent photo. I asked Jim about the photo and he replied:

"The photo was taken at Durango, Colorado in the mid 1970's. At this point in time the D&RGW still operated the Durango to Silverton run. The location of the photo was outside of the Durango roundhouse on one of the ready tracks. It was early morning and in a steady rain. My 35mm Minolta SRT-101 was mounted on a tripod with me holding an umbrella over it. I was using Kodacolor film with a timed exposure.

I want to congratulate the Region's newest MMR, Ron Christensen of the Michiana Division. Ron has been a close friend for many years, great job, Ron.

Jim Allen (in blue shirt) receiving the award from John Drozdak, Ingrid's husband. Looking on clapping is Walt Herrick who took over her duties as photo contest judge and Gary Children, model contest judge in the background. Jim Allen assisted Gary in the model room.

Jim's photo is on the cover.

You may not notice, but the online version of the Waybill is often an expanded version. I do the print version first, then this version for the internet. I can add as much material as I want, where I am usually limited to 8 pages for print.

I wrote about the SCWD's video contest in the print version, but did not really do it justice. Please read my expanded version on page 7.

#### Cover:

Jim Allen's award winning photo taken at Durango, Colorado in the mid 1970's. More details are above.

## 2018 Summer RON CHRISTENSEN BECOMES MMR #608

# Region News

### Midwest Region Achievement Program Report by Jim Landwehr- MWR AP Manager

Great news regarding the Achievement Program! We now have a brand new Master Model Railroader in our Midwest Region! It is my pleasure to announce that on February 1 2018 National awarded Master Model Railroad #608 to Ron Christensen of Stevensville, Michigan.

He earned his certificates in the category of cars, structures, author, chief dispatch, civil, electrical and scenery. If you know Ron or see him at a meet, be sure to congratulate him on this major achievement in the hobby. From everyone in the Midwest Region, congratulations Ron on earning Master Model Railroader #608!

I am happy to report that there has been some activity from our members. They continue to take part in the Achievement Program all over the Midwest Region. The following members received AP Certificates:

Steve Miazga	Waukesha, WI	Scenery
Steve Miazga	Waukesha, WI	Electrical
Steve Miazga	Waukesha, WI	Structural
Michael Shockley	Peoria, IL	Volunteer
Ron Christensen	Stevensville, MI	MMR
Bruce Giersch	Winnebago, IL	Golden Spike



## 2018 Winter

## President's Report

### Mid West Region NMRA – Winter 2018

#### President's Report

Steve Studley President, MWR

When I receive each new issue of the NMRA magazine, one of the first things I do is turn to the Achievement Program (AP) listings in the NMRA Bulletin section of the magazine. I scan through the listings looking for headers that note there has been an AP certificate earned by a modeler from the Midwest Region (MWR). On those months when there are listings for certificates newly earned by members of the MWR, I'm always happy to see that our talented modelers are receiving credit due them for their modeling abilities or service to the NMRA. Over the past two years (as Jim Landwehr, MWR AP Chair, reported in the Waybill from fall 2016 to fall 2018) we have had 51 certificates (including "Golden Spike" awards) earned by 35 members – about two certificates a month. While that number is a pretty good showing for the Region, I do believe we can do better.

Our region membership numbers a bit under 1500. The 35 members who earned a certificate in the last two years amount to a bit over 2% of the membership. Two percent seems like a small number. Can you help the region increase that number? I suspect there are probably quite a few of you who are currently working toward completing the requirements for their next certificate. That's great! Keep at it! If you can set aside some time on a "somewhat" regular basis (I realize life gets in the way of our hobby time), you should be able to complete the requirements relatively quickly. While you are working toward this goal, let your modeling buddies know what you are doing. Suggest they get involved in the AP. You can help each other as you continue working on that next, or last, model needed to complete the work.

Remember, when you enter models for assessment in the Achievement Program, you are enabling a way for you to become a better modeler. If your model didn't earn a merit award, study the assessment sheets to see where you can work on the

model to gain more points. Learn to build without having gaps where there shouldn't be gaps, keep the use of glues to a minimum so there aren't visible globs of glue, make sure your models are square and plumb, and the finishes are applied neatly and properly. Learn to fill out the NMRA National Contest Judging Form (NMRA Form #902) ensuring there is enough information provided to allow the assessment team to know how you built your model. If you can hone your skills, you should be able to make the journey through the AP a more pleasant endeavor.

If you are interested in either getting started in the AP or picking up where you left off in the past, I'd suggest you contact a fellow modeler who you know is involved in the program. Talk to them to find out what they have done as they have progressed through the program. If you are not sure who that might be or you have other questions about the Achievement Program, contact your Division's AP manager. You should find contact information for the AP manager listed on the Division's website or in the newsletter. If you can't find that information, contact your superintendent.

If you weren't able to attend either "Capitol 400" or "Kansas City 2018" this year, here is your chance for next year. Our NMRA Regional neighbors to the north and west, Thousand Lakes Region, will co-host with the MWR a dual-Region Convention "The Grand Crossing", on May 16-19, 2019 in La Crosse, WI.

<https://www.thousandlakesregion.org/events>  
As the schedule for the dual-Region Convention is firmed up, additional information can be found on the above website and will be added to the MWR website. Click on the Conventions tab at the top of the home page. Check back often to learn the latest.

<http://www.mwr-nmra.org>

In the meantime – back to the layout!

Steve

### Election Biographies for 2019 candidates

Yes, it is once again election time. Up for election are President, Vice-president and three positions for Director-at-Large. Please vote to show your support for the region. The ballot is on page 13.

#### Steve Studley, Central Indiana Division incumbent

Hello. It's Steve Studley once again asking for your support in the upcoming Midwest Region (MWR) election. I am finishing my first term as Region President and am seeking a second term. During the past two years, the Region has moved forward with scheduling a dual-region convention with the Thousand Lakes Region for spring 2019. We are also looking forward to a tri-region convention in 2022 with the North Central and Mid Central Regions.

Penny and I continue to enjoy our retirement years. With this freedom we enjoy traveling to the region conventions and board meetings and being able to spend some extra time exploring the host cities. We were able to attend the National Convention in Kansas City this summer. I enjoyed attending clinics and Penny was busy with the Non-Rail program and it's always a joy to visit with our friends at these events. In a previous bio I mentioned that I have earned four Achievement Program (AP) certificates. Hopefully (hope springs eternal) there will be time to continue work on other AP certificates.

I would appreciate your vote allowing me to continue to serve, you, the members of the Midwest Region for two more years as President. I look forward to working with the other Board members while carrying out the business of the Midwest Region.

Steve Studley



#### Reid Kahrs, Wisconsin Southeastern Division Incumbent

I joined the NMRA after attending the 1985 NMRA National convention held in Milwaukee. I've been a (WISE) Wisconsin Southeastern Division board member, serving as a Division Director, Chief

Clerk, Assistant Superintendent, and Superintendent. During the twenty-five years on the WISE board I've helped at Trainfest with setup and during the train show.

Currently I am the Midwest Region Vice President and served previously as director-at-large for two terms (four years). Also, I serve as region convention committee chairman. My wife, Chip, and I regularly attend regional and national NMRA conventions. I was the chairman for the 2010 NMRA convention held in Milwaukee. I am a member of the Milwaukee Road Historical Association and belong to NMRA Operations SIG.



I retired from the City of Milwaukee and now live in Colgate, Wisconsin. During the years since moving here I have been preparing the basement for my layout. I operate on many home layouts and with opsig groups during the past 10 to 12 years.

I would like to continue serving you as your MWR Vice President. I enjoyed my first term as Region Vice President. Thank you for your vote.

#### Jim Landwehr, Fox Valley Division

Hi. My name is James Landwehr and I'm running for Midwest Region Director-at-Large. As a previously elected DAL officer (2014-2018), I attended every Board of Directors meeting. In the fall of 2014 I also accepted the position as Midwest Regional Achievement Program Manager, which I still hold, to help assist members on their journey through the achievement program.



I've been a member with the NMRA since 2006. Over the years of membership, I've had the opportunity to be increasingly involved in the NMRA and have been a board member of the Fox Valley Division since 2007 as the Achievement Program & Contest Trainmaster. My responsibilities afforded me the opportunity to assist members of our division on their way through the Achievement Program, and promote the monthly contest participation.

I would be honored to serve the Midwest Region as a Director-at-Large.

**Jerry Peterson, Michiana Division**

Personal: My name is Jerry Peterson, and I live in Stevensville, Michigan. I am married with three children and five grandchildren.

Professional Background: I retired in 2017 after 32 years working at the Cook Nuclear Plant in Bridgman, Michigan. During my time there, I was a Plant Operator, a Senior Administrative Compliance Coordinator, a Senior Project Engineer and finished my career as the Procedure Program Owner. Prior to working at Cook, I spent fourteen years in the Nuclear Navy serving on various submarines and support ships.

Hobby Experience & Interests: I started with my 1948 American Flyer train set, which still runs around our Christmas tree. In the mid 1970's my eldest son and I constructed an 8ft by 8ft HO layout capable of running 3 trains simultaneously. We moved this layout from Groton, Connecticut to Virginia Beach, Virginia to Berrien Springs, Michigan. The layout currently resides in Bellevue Nebraska with my son. Currently, I am building an N scale layout with the help of my grandchildren. This is also my first adventure into DCC.

NMRA Experience: I have been an NMRA member since March of 2013 and currently the Michiana Division Achievement Program Manager. I am interested in becoming a Midwest Region Director-at-Large, so I can continue to serve the NMRA to increase my awareness of issues and opportunities facing the organization and our region, and to learn more about our organization and the hobby in general.



has come up with certain things such as the 501c3 tax exemption that need to be addressed. We, as a region, can work these things out with the help of all regional people.

I am a life member of NMRA and I model the Wisconsin Central, Southern and Santa Fe in S gauge. I have been railroading since age 5 with a Lionel train set given to me for Christmas. At age 15 I changed to HO gauge and at age 55 I changed to S gauge. I also enjoyed helping restore car #26 at the East Troy Trolley Museum. At this time I am also the AP director of the W.I.S.E. Thank for your support.

**Gary Children, Wisconsin Southeastern Division Incumbent**

I am a candidate for Director-at-Large of the Midwest Region of the NMRA. I was appointed to fill this position for the person who was elected to fill another position. I would like to run another term as Director-at-Large. In the past I have been regional president, Vice president, and model and Photo Chair for the region.

There are several things between the region and division that need to be worked out. National also

**John Coy, Central Indiana Division**

I have always promoted and shared the hobby with others. I joined the NMRA because its goal is to promote and share the hobby.



Railroading is in my blood and my passion! Many family members were railroad men. My love of the hobby began in 1964 at Christmas when my parents gave me an American Flyer wind-up toy train. I ran that train until its spring broke! Years later, 1970s, I became involved in HO. In 2011, I changed to O scale and created 'The Glacier Line' which is a highly realistic 3-rail layout.

The GL is on the front cover of CTT-- November 2018. The Glacier Line has been featured in other publications as well two professional videos. It has its own YouTube channel.

I am proud to say upon joining the NMRA I encouraged my wife and crew to join as well. We are all members now! I'm already involved in the AP and am currently writing articles or the NMRA. I'm on multiple Internet sites promoting the hobby and often meet with local people.

It would be my honor and privilege to represent you as a MWR Director-at-Large  
Thank you.

# 2019 Spring

## President's Report

Steve Studley President, MWR

It's a treat to write this article because I get to change the title from the winter report to the spring report. We all know that doesn't mean the weather will take notice and make the necessary changes to get us out of the deep-freeze and into a time of much warmer temperatures. But it does give us something to look forward to. In the meantime, work progresses on modeling projects. I have three projects I'm working on; a drive-in hot dog stand that will go on my layout, a new 100 scale foot X 100 scale foot display for a repurposed railroad car, and a project to provide specialized signals for the yard lead on my Midwest Central Railroad. While these are all railroad modeling projects, they do have one other thing in common – research (and lots of it).

The hot dog stand (now a gardening shop) is from my home town and is near the crossing of the B&O and C&EI (now both CSX). Fortunately, I was able to photograph the building at the time it changed hands and before extensive renovations were carried out. Internet research provided an aerial view that allows me to gain a view (albeit fuzzy) of the roof and to be able to determine the dimensions of the stand. A site visit early last spring provided field measurements and an insight into the building from the current owner. I learned from him the layout of the old building including some of the eccentricities of the design. Research was helped along by visiting local hometown history pages on Facebook.

An internet search for "Repurposed Railroad Car" found quite a few photos of cars of that subject. I was able to find one that I thought was very interesting and the quest for more data began. Computer research found the site of the car and some more photos. The subject began life as a Pennsylvania Railroad passenger car. Fortunately we have an excellent PRR modeler here in town and I reached out to him for information about the car. As it turns out, he is also a knowledgeable PRR modeler because he replied within the hour with a quite complete history of the car. This, of course, allowed me to continue to learn about the car and to find more photos of it. Subsequent searches found photos of the interior of the car in its present-day use.

The third project came about after mentioning to a friend - a former railroad employee in the engineering department for CSX - what I was trying to accomplish on my layout. His reply was that a project he had worked on used a signal system that would

take care of the "problem" on my railroad. So it was time to, once again, "let the games begin!" Research began with searching out documentation about the original yard renovation project and has proceeded to searching yard diagrams and current employees' timetable for the rules associated with the use of that signal system. Did I mention the umpteen-gazillion photos and videos that have been viewed in the search for a clear, close-up of said signals? The (re)search continues.

Obviously I enjoy the quest for information that will allow for the construction of a model that very much resembles the prototype. It's those Eureka! (I have found it!) moments that happen when the researcher discovers an elusive piece of information that make you feel really good. Remember too, friends have been instrumental in this process of discovery. Research may not be your favorite aspect of the hobby, but I hope the social side of model railroading is something that, you too, appreciate and enjoy.

It's a new year and we have a new convention coming up on our calendar. Our NMRA Regional neighbors to the north and west, Thousand Lakes Region, will co-host with the MWR a dual-Region Convention "The Grand Crossing", on May 16-19, 2019 in LaCrosse, WI.

<https://www.thousandlakesregion.org/events>

As of this writing, the schedule, clinic and layout lists for the dual-Region Convention are being firmed up. As these are completed, additional information will be placed on the above website and will be added to the MWR website. Click on the Conventions tab at the top of our home page. Check back often to learn the latest. <http://www.mwr-nmra.org> In the meantime – back to the layout!

Steve

## Region News

### Midwest Region Achievement Program by Jim Landwehr- MWR AP Manager

There was no activity in the Region this quarter.  
Thanks, Jim

#### Annual Meeting of Members

Days Inn Convention Center  
101 Sky Harbour Drive  
LaCrosse, Wisconsin  
date and time TBD

**NMRA President's Letter May-June 2019**  
by Peter Magoun

Spring has sprung!

It's here! Finally! As I write this, the daffodils have bloomed, the forsythia exploded the other day, the snow piles are gone and not lamented, and change is in the air. It's been a long winter up here in northern Michigan, and we're ready for change. Good change. The incoming stuff on tonight's weather radar map is not likely to arrive in the form of white gifts from above, and that is a welcome change!

We have a few changes to announce within the NMRA as well, and they are under what I call the "Mixed Blessing" category, as they are people changes that will relieve the watch, so to speak, with other good people.

The first of these is within the Standards & Conformance Department, where S&C Manager Didrik Voss, MMR®, has asked to retire. Di has done the job for over a decade, and done it well, and we'll miss his wisdom and insight. I have appointed Carl Smeigh to replace him. Carl is a retired US Navy Captain who understands standards and conformance. He was ordered to a shipyard decades ago, found piles of steel plate stacked up, turned those plates into a nuclear submarine, took her to sea for a year, and then moved onward and upward.

In our little world, he's finishing off his MMR® and happily modeling HO-scale Colorado Narrow Gauge from his home in Florida. He has worked with the National Contest team for several years (see the "S&C" influence in there?), and expects to continue to do so as time permits. Although the turnover is underway now, he'll formally relieve Di Voss at the Board Meeting in Salt Lake City. Please introduce yourself and welcome him aboard when you see him.

National Nominating Committee Chair Tony Koester has also asked to retire from that position to free up some time to deal with some Nickel Plate Historical Society issues that have come up. Tony founded the NKPHS decades ago, and it's a favorite of his. I have asked Mike Brestel to step up as Nominating Committee Chair, which he will do at the Salt Lake City convention when his Board of Directors term ends.

And speaking of Mike Brestel, his term on the Board of Directors indeed comes to an end in Salt Lake City. Mike is a stalwart NMRA volunteer, and his

**Annual Meeting of Members**

**Holiday Inn and Suites East Peoria**  
**date and time TBD**

"corporate memory" is profound. We'll miss his counsel and advice, and wish him well in his "retirement," which, of course, I just complicated by asking him to be the Nominating Committee Chair. Mike also works the calendar and the NMRA insurance programs, so he'll stay involved and busy, which is good.

The Model Railroading Gallery Exhibit project at the California State Railroad Museum in Sacramento is finally underway after a lengthy period of issues within the State of California and not related to the NMRA. This is coming together nicely, as Past President Charlie Getz relates in the story below. They have targeted September 1st for an opening date, have received some very generous donations of hobby memorabilia and model railroad dioramas and small layouts, and are well on the way to adding an NMRA/model railroading presence to this Smithsonian Affiliate Museum's offerings.

Education is a major reason for the existence of the NMRA. Yes, we were founded mostly on the idea of Standards, but unless people are aware of those standards (and follow them -- that's the "education" part coming in), the hobby wouldn't work as well as it does for us. We have a number of "Beginner" pages on the website, and frankly, they're aging out. We need to replace them with new content, and Education Department Manager Bruce DeYoung, MMR®, will need some help doing this. You can find him at [educate@nmra.org](mailto:educate@nmra.org), or in-person at the SLC convention. We'll have more to say on this as time marches on.

High Green!

## **Region News**

### **Midwest Region Achievement Program**

**by Jim Landwehr- MWR AP Manager**

I am happy to report that there has been a lot of activity from our members. They continue to take part in the Achievement Program all over the Midwest Region.

The following members received awards:

Robert Landwehr	Arlington Heights, IL	Official
Michael Hirvela	Waukegan, IL	Official
Eric Peterson	Carmel, IN	Official
John Leow	Marquette, MI	Official
Emil Mosny	Rockford, IL	Volunteer
Emil Mosny	Rockford, IL	Cars
John Coy	Avon, IN	
Dispatcher		

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

Thanks, Jim

### **Midwest Region Elections**

**The NMRA Midwest Region Needs You!**

Happy Fall everyone! It's time to start thinking about next year's elections, so this is your reminder that it's never too late to offer your services to the Midwest Region. My 2nd term as a Director-at-Large (DAL) is up at the end of this year, and I am glad I raised my hand four years ago. I've learned more about the workings of the NMRA at the region level, and have met many more great model railroaders!

We elect three (3) DALs on each odd numbered year, and four (4) DALs on each even numbered year. Our DALs up for re-election this coming election on the "even cycle" are Eric Peterson, Fred Henize, and Jim Allen. They are finishing their 1st Terms and are eligible to run for a 2nd term. Bob Landwehr will be finishing his 2nd term, so we'll need one of you fine folks to run for this DAL position.

If you are interested in running for one of these positions, please contact me using the info below!

Dan Brewer  
Nominating Committee  
[dhrr@comcast.net](mailto:dhrr@comcast.net)

Midwest Region Director-at-Large.  
**Jim Allen, Fox Valley Division**

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, Master Builder-Motive Power, Chief Dispatcher, Association Volunteer and Association Official.

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 Div., in cooperation with the Du Page Div., have been manning a NMRA membership table at the monthly Du Page train Show. With our Timesaver switching layout and our commercial display we have been able to draw enough attention to generate new interest in the NMRA, especially among 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.



## 2019 Winter

## Election Bios

Midwest Region Director-at-Large.  
**Gary Children, WISE Division**

I am a candidate for Director at Large of the Midwest Region of the NMRA. I would like to run another term as Director at Large. In the past I have been regional president, Vice president, and model and Photo Chair for the region.



There are several things between the region and division that need to be worked out. National also has come up with certain things such as the 501c3 tax exemption that need to be addressed. We, as a region, can work these things out with the help of all regional people.

I am a life member of NMRA and I model the Wisconsin Central, Southern and Santa Fe in S gauge. I have been railroading since age 5 with a Lionel train set given to me for Christmas. At age 15 I changed to HO gauge and at age 55 I changed to S gauge. I also enjoyed helping restore car #26 at the East Troy Trolley Museum.

Thank for your support.  
Gary E. Children

Midwest Region Director-at-Large.  
**Eric Peterson, Central Indiana Division**

My interest in model railroading and railroads is due to building models and attending NMRA activities with my Father in the North Central Region. I am a life member and support the NMRA because it is the organization for our hobby, not only providing standards, recommended practices, publications, contests, and achievement awards but more importantly the social and educational activities we enjoy.



We recently moved from Jacksonville, FL to Carmel, IN to be near family. I was active in the Sunshine Region including serving as the Northern Division Superintendent and SSR Board. The Northern Division organized quarterly division meetings in the Jacksonville area including clinics, show and tell, and local club updates for area modelers.

We have also had layout open houses, club visits, prototype field trips and some operating sessions.

My modeling started in HO and I have been modeling in O scale two rail since 1971. My sectional layout is now in the 6th different home due to work relocations.

I have also been active in the NMRA Achievement Program completing Author, Scenery and Electrical Certificates. I look forward to being involved on the Midwest Region.

Midwest Region Director-at-Large.  
**Walt Herrick, Fox Valley Division**

I have had an interest in trains since I was a toddler growing up in Crystal Lake, Illinois. My first train set was a basic American Flyer 4-4-2 steamer set I received at Christmas when I was 6. I continued with Flyer until I was a teenager. At that time, I switched over to HO. I dropped out of the hobby in high school and college, but returned right after college after moving to Cincinnati in 1973 to start my first full time job. I've been active in the hobby since then joining the NMRA in 1995. I became active in the Fox Valley Division in 2011 when I became editor of its Semaphore newsletter and a board member, positions I still hold today. I became the MWR's Photographer in 2016 and Photo Contest Chair in 2017. I am running for Director at Large to further serve the NMRA and its mission to promote and serve our great hobby.



Midwest Region Director-at-Large.  
**Michael David Roderick, Central Indiana Division**

I am running for the Director at Large for the Midwest Region. I am fifty (50) years old and have enjoyed trains most of my life. My father & grandfather's collected n-scale and HO trains when I was a child and I have some of their trains today. I currently model in HO scale trains.

Continued on page 10



I enjoy working on my layout at home. I enjoy operation session's and once my layout gets done, I will have some at my house.

I was a member of the North Shore Model Railroad club in Boston and was chairman of operations for them. I am the former President of the Naptown Whiteriver Railroad club in Indianapolis and ran operations and train shows for them.

I decided to devote my time to CID as a train-master. I enjoy organizing train shows and currently I am the Train Show Master for the Indianapolis Spring Train Show in April 2020. I am the model railroader merit badge counselor for Boy Scouts of America for CID.

I am currently working toward my NMRA-MMR. I am on the board for INDY Junction 2022 and looking forward in working with everyone to make this tri region convention one of the best that has been held.

If I am elected as one of the Directors at Large I will do whatever I can to help in this position.