NMRA BULLETIN

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2011 NMRA National Convention Dates and National Train Show Reservations:
• 2011—Sacramento, CA July 3–9, 2011 www.s2011west.org
Train Show Booth Reservations—Debbie Draper, HLM, Registrar • 10837 N. 34th Place, Phoenix, AZ 85028-3310 • (602) 569-9072 • natrainshow@aol.com
• 2012—Grand Rapids, MI • 2013—Atlanta, GA • 2014—Cleveland, OH
Lone Star Region
Steven Barkley, Beaumont, Texas

Mid-Eastern Region
Andrew Dodge, Olney, Maryland

Northeastern Region
Steven Brown, Jamesville, New York

MODEL RAILROAD ENGINEER — ELECTRICAL
Mid-Central Region
Georgia Dahlberg, Williamstown, Kentucky

Mid-Eastern Region
Andrew Dodge, Olney, Maryland

Pacific Northwest Region
Gary Hazell, Tappen, British Columbia

CHIEF DISPATCHER
British Region
Jonathan Small, Prenton, Birkenhead, MERSEY

Lone Star Region
Tom Browning, Dallas, Texas

Mid-Eastern Region
Andrew Dodge, Olney, Maryland

Pacific Northwest Region
Gary Hazell, Tappen, British Columbia

Master Builder — Motive Power
British Region
Rod Franklin, Ashby-de-la-Zouch, LEICS, England

Master Builder — Cars
British Region
Rod Franklin, Ashby-de-la-Zouch, LEICS, England
Mick Moignard, Aylesbury, BUCKS,

Mid-Eastern Region
Andrew Dodge, Olney, Maryland

Rocky Mountain Region
Phil Hackman, Gering, Nebraska

Master Builder — Structures
Mid-Continent Region
Edward Bommer, Okmulgee, Oklahoma

Pacific Northwest Region
David Faussett, Tacoma, Washington

Master Builder — Scenery
Mid-Continent Region
Edward Bommer, Okmulgee, Oklahoma
Allen Merta, Cedar Rapids, Iowa

Mid-Eastern Region
Andrew Dodge, Olney, Maryland

Pacific Northwest Region
Dale Kreutzer, Port Orchard, Washington

Master Builder — Prototype Models
Northeastern Region
Bill Brown, MMR, Jamesville, New York

Pacific Northwest Region
Dale Kreutzer, Port Orchard, Washington

MODEL RAILROAD ENGINEER — CIVIL
Mid-Eastern Region
William R. Lyders, Manassas, Virginia

Northeastern Region
Steven Brown, Jamesville, New York

Pacific Northwest Region
David Faussett, Tacoma, Washington

Mid-Eastern Region
Andrew Dodge, Olney, Maryland

Northeastern Region
William H. Barry, Marlborough, Massachusetts

Pacific Northwest Region
Gary Hazell, Tappen, British Columbia

Rocky Mountain Region
Christopher Fallis, Colorado Springs, Colorado

Thousand Lakes Region
Gerry Leone, MMR, Excelsior, Minnesota

ASSOCIATION OFFICIAL
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Tim Rudge, Hilperton Marsh, WILTS

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Pete LaGuardia, Haymarket, Virginia
Ernest Little, Manassas, Virginia
Robert McKeever, Manassas, Virginia
Robert Rodriguez, Dumfries, Virginia

North Central Region
Fred Rockwell, Redford, Michigan

Model Railroad Author
Mid-Eastern Region
Andrew Dodge, Olney, Maryland

Northeastern Region
Andrew Clermont, Albany, New York

MMR GROUP: All MMRs are invited to work with other MMRs by contacting Rick Shoup, MMR, at ricshoup@verizon.net. If you have questions about the AP program or requirements, start with your local or Region AP manager. If you still have questions, contact Frank Koch at fjkoch@hotmail.com. If you prefer to write, contact Frank at 4769 Silverwood Dr., Batavia, OH 45103.
I’ve had an interest in trains as far back as I can remember. My mother still recalls how I would have her set an old wind up steam engine on the floor and watch it light up and run around my crib. As I got a little older and it came time for me to learn to read, my parents use to bribe me by allowing me to purchase model railroading magazines only if I would read the articles and not just look at the photos — tough deal! My entrance into the world of model railroading began early with my parents’ purchase of a Tyco Chattanooga choo-choo set for Christmas. Today, I model the St. Louis San Francisco’s Eastern Division during the early 1940s. As one can imagine, model railroading is not a common pastime in rural Missouri, but my grandfather always took me to various shows and museums around the area. I can vividly remember to this day, grandpa taking me up to the tracks to watch the trains go by most every Friday afternoon. He did everything he could to cultivate my interest of railroading, I think he was a closet railfan/model railroader at heart. It is for this reason that I have to dedicate my MMR to my grandpa, William H. Jones.

Fortunately for me, my love for trains never really faded through my adolescent and college years as it has for many. Throughout my life it would seem as though there has always been a constant presence of trains. Oh, I’ve taken spells where I will take a break for a period of time, but never a complete absence from the hobby. The one big change that took place during college when I decided to change from modeling the late 1970s to modeling the 1940s. This change was largely brought on by witnessing the St. Louis Steam Association’s efforts of running No. 1522 up and down the Frisco’s former Eastern Division. Even though I have changed eras, I’ve never had a desire to model anything other than my favorite railroad (Frisco) and over my favorite portion the middle of the Eastern Division. Although it has only been recently that space for a full-size layout has become available, I have been working on building a fleet of rolling stock and motive power to fill a layout. It is my intent to have most of this work complete by the time I start work on a layout.

A friend of mine once said that achieving MMR status was a journey: for me, it ended up being a 15-year journey. Back then, a non-NMRA member (Dean Smith) told me since I enjoyed building contest models so much why didn’t I get involved with the NMRA Achievement Program — that’s when it all started. Now that I have acquired my MMR, I’m trying to persuade him that he should do the same! Although I have taken my time, I have learned a lot and enjoyed the trip a great deal. I would have to say probably the best part has been all the new friends I have made along the way, for that matter I would say that about the hobby as a whole.

Throughout the process I have received a great deal of encouragement from many NMRA members, Ron Williams and Rick McClellan come to mind, just to name a few. I must also mention the sacrifice my wife, Gwen, has made during the hours I spent at the workbench preparing for the next contest.

Model railroading is such a wonderful hobby and encompasses so many aspects of other hobbies. What other hobby can you combine so many other hobbies in one: construction of models, the operation of them once they are complete, photography, and history, to name just a few. The great thing about clubs and organizations such as the NMRA is that if you are not familiar with one aspect you can lean on fellow modelers for the help you need. Or if someone really enjoys the element of the hobby that you don’t, sometimes they might even pitch in and help you do it. With the help of modern technology and the knowledge of fellow members within the NMRA, there is no reason not to jump on board and enjoy the hobby to it’s fullest!

Brad lives in Dixon, Missouri, with his wife, Gwen. He is employed by the Army Corps of Engineers and is a government-certified track inspector. Among his current projects is the replacement of a number of 1940s-era timber trestles.

Brad has earned the following certificates: Motive Power, Rolling Stock, Structures, Prototype Scene, Dispatcher, Author, and Official.