



# NMRA BULLETIN

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rev 9-2-08

2009 NMRA National Convention Dates and National Train Show Reservations:  
Hartford, Connecticut • July 5 – 11, 2009 • Info: • <http://www.HN2009.org>  
Train Show Booth Reservations—Debbie Draper, HLM, Registrar • 10837 N. 34th Place, Phoenix, AZ 85028-3310 • (602) 569-9072 • [nattrainshow@aol.com](mailto:nattrainshow@aol.com)  
2010—Milwaukee, WI • 2011—Sacramento, CA • 2012—Grand Rapids, MI • 2011—Atlanta, GA

## HEADQUARTERS

### ADDRESS CHANGE? BACK ISSUES OR REPLACEMENT ISSUES OF *SCALE RAILS*?

Members needing to make address changes, request back issues, or replacement issues of *SCALE RAILS* should contact the staff at the national headquarters office in Chattanooga, Tennessee, at (423) 892-2846 or by email at nmrahq@aol.com.

## ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM

### NMRA AP CERTIFICATE REPORT

\*Indicates first Certificate of Achievement

#### AUGUST 2008

#### GOLDEN SPIKE

##### Australasian Region

Norm Downes, Ballina, NSW

##### Midwest Region

Michael Wood, Algonquin, Illinois

##### Northeastern Region

Andy Clermont, Albany, New York  
Steve Perry, Miller Place, New York  
Leo Adamski, Penfield, New York

##### Pacific Coast Region

Bill Everett, Santa Barbara, California

### MASTER BUILDER — MOTIVE POWER

##### Mid-Eastern Region

John Griffith, Lorton, Virginia

##### Pacific Coast Region

Alf Modine\*, Cupertino, California

### MASTER BUILDER — STRUCTURES

##### Australasian Region

Frank Godde\*, Kalamunda, Washington

### MASTER BUILDER — SCENERY

##### Mid-Continent Region

Fran Hale, Kansas City, Missouri

##### Northeastern Region

Don Irace, North Scituate, Rhode Island

##### Niagra Frontier Region

Bruce Leckie\*, Acton ONT

##### Pacific Northwest Region

James Ballew\*, Coeur D'Alene, Idaho

### MODEL RAILROAD ENGINEER — ELECTRICAL

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##### Niagra Frontier Region

Raymond Howard\*, Geneva, New York  
John Kanakos\*, London, ONT  
Bruce Leckie, Acton, ONT

##### Pacific Northwest Region

James Ballew, Coeur D'Alene, Idaho

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Peter Jensen, Cessnock, NSW

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Rich Mahaney\*, Cedar Rapids, Iowa

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Robert Rousseau\*, Holly Springs, North Carolina

##### Midwest Region

Michael Wood\*, Algonquin, Illinois

##### Niagra Frontier Region

John Moseley\*, London, ONT

##### Pacific Northwest Region

Larry Sebelley\*, Chilliwack, BC

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Ron Pearson\*, Cincinnati, Ohio

##### Mid-Eastern Region

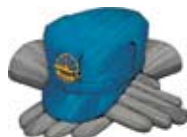
Earl Hackett\*, Hockessin, Delaware

##### Niagra Frontier Region

Bruce Leckie, Acton, ONT

##### Pacific Coast Region

Alf Modine, Cupertino, California



## MMR EARNED



JERRY ASHLEY EARNS MMR 411

I did not have a train set as a youngster. I grew up in eastern Kentucky where the only place you could get one was out of the Montgomery Ward Catalog. So I looked at the pictures and dreamed: One day I would have one. It happened, but not when I was a youngster. My wife bought me an N scale train set for Christmas about 15 years ago. I was hooked! That same year I also visited a mall layout and got to see what a modeler can do.

I soon attended my first NMRA Division 8 meeting that next month where I got yelled at and told I could not join the Division unless I belonged to the NMRA. The person doing the yelling then turned his back on me and went about his business and never did tell me how to join the NMRA. So I left for about five years. Finally, I came back. The division could not get anyone to run for trustee that year, so I threw my name in the hat and was elected with no opposition.

Although I didn't know it at the time, that was how I got started in the AP Program. Volunteer was my first certificate. After 12 years as a trustee, I was elected Superintendent of Division 8 and served two terms in that office earning my Association Official certificate. Then, I was elected to the President's office of the Mid Central Region, but had to resign after one year because of my health.

Along the way I earned Scenery, Cars, Structures, Electrical, and Author's Certificates. Thanks to much pushing and shoving from Ivan Baugh, whom I appointed as the AP Chairman for Division 8 here in Louisville, I got those certificates finished. Thanks also to our national chairman, Paul Richardson, MMR, Frank Koch, MCR AP Chairman, and the collaboration

of Dick Briggs, MMR, and Howard Smith, MMR with Ivan for surprising me with the certificate at the MCR Convention in Cleveland, Ohio, in May 2008. They facilitated the speedy delivery of the completed MMR certificate in time for the unexpected presentation at the convention.

Thanks to a very understanding wife of over 40 years. She has given me all property rights to the basement as long as I do the washing and drying of the clothes. She also answers the door when fellow modelers knock and sends them on down to me in the “hole” as she calls it. Some credit has to go to Miles Hale, MMR, because if he can do it, anyone can...

*Jerry has earned certificates in: Master Builder—Cars, Master Builder—Scenery, Master Builder—Structures, Model Railroad Engineer—Electrical, Association Official, Association Volunteer, and Model Railroad Author.*



TONY J. BOWEN EARNS MMR 414

As long as I can remember, trains have been a part of my life. My grandpa, who was a conductor for the Rock Island Railroad for 38 years and retired from the railroad in the early 1970s, was a big influence in introducing me to trains and keeping that interest in my hands. Visits to my grandparent’s home ended with handfuls of *Trains* and *Railfan* magazines sent home with me. While other boys my age read *Sports Illustrated*, I read anything dealing with trains for hours on end.

After my parents realized trains were not going to be a short-term craze, I was given an N scale train set for Christmas in 1978. That

first train set was a simple oval track that I set up on the dining room table Christmas Day. That was enough for me — I was hooked.

Within a year of receiving the N scale train set, I had upgraded to a track plan that was a little more than just a simple oval.

In high school, I took the railroad down and packed away many cars, engines, and models I had accumulated. To keep my interests in trains, I began taking many railroad-related photos and joined a local HO club.

When I went off to college at the University of Northern Iowa, I had a perfect part-time job working at a hobby shop in Cedar Falls, Iowa. My hobby shop experience gave me the exposure of visiting with many talented modelers and listening to their stories of what worked well and not so well with their own modeling encounters. I listened carefully, and kept that insightful information to help me as a modeler. It was a true learning experience.

I married my high school sweetheart after graduating from college and took an elementary teaching position in Coggon, Iowa, a small rural town about 20 miles north of Cedar Rapids. At the time, we were living in Marion, Iowa, in a small apartment with no room for a railroad; however, the thoughts of building an N scale railroad were always being kicked around in the back of my mind. While living in Marion, I became acquainted with a Rock Island Railroad retiree who had made many of his own brakeman student trips on the railroad working with my grandpa. From his sto-

ries of railroading in the 1950s and 1960s, I narrowed down a time frame I wanted to recreate for my own model railroad.

In 1998, my wife and I built a house in Coggon, Iowa, and shortly after moving in, an N scale track plan and benchwork began to take shape. Because there were no other model railroaders in the area, I used my past acquaintances from my hobby shop experience and formed a small round robin group of model railroaders in 2003.

In 2004, I joined the NMRA with no intentions of pursuing the Achievement Program right away — the Division I belonged to was pretty inactive then. The Division became active again by the spring of 2005. After meeting other NMRA members and taking an active role as the Division Clerk for the Eastern Iowa Division, I was inspired to start working on some of the Achievement Program Certificates.

I want to thank my wife, Jennifer, and my two daughters, Isabelle and Claire, who deserve special recognition. I also cannot thank my model railroading friends enough for their continued support and guidance. There are so many people who helped make this journey possible, and for that I am very grateful.

*Tony has earned certificates in: Master Builder—Motive Power, Master Builder—Cars, Master Builder—Scenery, Model Railroad Engineer—Electrical, Model Railroad Engineer—Chief Dispatcher, Association Volunteer, and Model Railroad Author.*

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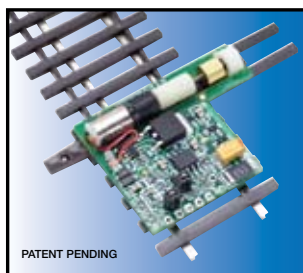


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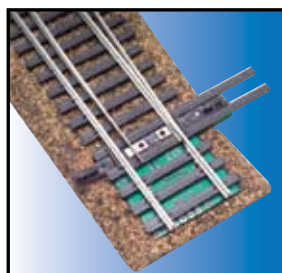
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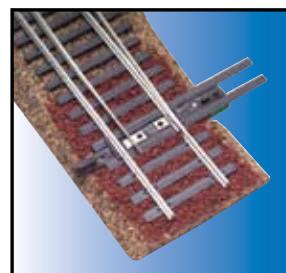
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“The Flea”™ top view (Right hand switch ballasted)

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### DAVID CREMENT EARNS MMR 410

I became interested in the East Broad Top about 27 years ago and joined an informal group headed by Rick Shoup. I now hold Friends of the East Broad Top membership No. 29. I served as model and photo contest chairman for many FOEB fall reunions. I have been part of the volunteer restoration group for Robertsdale station and have contributed model building articles for the *Timber Transfer*.

I retired in 1994 and built a new home in Carpentersville, Illinois. I have a DCC-equipped On3 multi-level home layout occupying a room 14 x36 feet. The basement has nine-foot ceilings. My complete machine shop with six-inch lathe and 30-inch milling machine occupies the other part of the basement, and the 12-foot island model bench allows me to do most any modeling work.

My railroad closely follows the narrow gauge railroad of the East Broad Top located in south-central Pennsylvania depicting the upper half of the EBT. The layout includes 450 feet of hand-laid Code 100 weathered rail. (See *Light Iron Digest* magazine Volume 8, No. 5 Oct/Nov 2006 page 12). The layout begins on the top level 61 inches from the floor at Shaft Mine No. 8, Woodvale, Pennsylvania, and travels down through the company towns of Robertsdale, Cooks, and Rocky Ridge, disappearing into Wray's Hill tunnel exiting at Coles Valley depot and tank house. The tracks continue through Kimmel Siding and Siding Hill, exiting again on the lowest level 27 inches below Woodvale's No. 6 mine.

I have scratchbuilt many "O" scale EBT structures and railroad equipment models, and along with St. Charles Model Works of

Illinois have made available the "PANIC" and No. 26 work caboose, many hopper car loads, and hopper car No. 523. There are currently new patterns being introduced for a variety of EBT's passenger equipment and structures.

I am also a long-time member of the Great Northern Historical Society, Shortflaggers model railroad club, and an active participant with the Boy Scouts of America.

David has earned certificates in: Master Builder—Cars, Master Builder—Motive Power, Master Builder—Prototype Models, Master Builder—Scenery, Master Builder—Structures, Model Railroad Engineer—Electrical, Model Railroad Engineer—Civil, and Model Railroad Author.

### NMRA Survey

Do you want better conventions?  
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[www.nmra.org/survey](http://www.nmra.org/survey)

Chance to win big prizes!  
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Survey ends 30<sup>th</sup> November 2008

### NMRA Future convention dates

(Note: Convention dates are from Sunday to Saturday - Last date of NTS is one day later)

<b>Hartford</b>	<b>July 5 - July 11, 2009</b>
<b>Milwaukee</b>	<b>July 11 - July 17, 2010</b>
<b>Sacramento</b>	<b>July 3 - July 9, 2011</b>
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