

NMRA BULLETIN

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**Have you changed your address or
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2019 NMRA National Convention Dates and National Train Show Reservations:

2019—Salt Lake City, UT • July 7–13, 2019 • <http://www.nmra2019slc.org>

Train Show Booth Reservations—Jenny Hendricks Registrar - P.O. Box 1328, Soddy Daisy, TN 37384-1328

423-892-2846 • ntsreg@nmra.org

• 2020—St. Louis, MO • 2021—Santa Clara, CA • 2022—Birmingham, England

ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM

NMRA AP CERTIFICATE REPORT

AUGUST 2018

GOLDEN SPIKE

Lone Star Region

James Williams, West Columbia, Texas

Mid-Eastern Region

John Paganoni, Manassas, Virginia
Glyn Thomas, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
John Trout, New Castle, Delaware
Jeffrey Witt, Doylestown, Pennsylvania
Joseph Zebrowski, Shamone Twp., New Jersey

Northeastern Region

David Insley, Townson, Massachusetts
Brenna Whitney, Derry, New Hampshire

Rocky Mountain Region

William Hughes, Layton, Utah

Sunshine Region

Jeffrey Barker, Atlantic Beach, Florida
Richard Paul, Jacksonville, Florida

MASTER BUILDER - STRUCTURES

Mid-Eastern Region

Robert Hubbard, Haddonfield, New Jersey
Glyn Thomas, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Mid-Continent Region

William Scheerer, Lees Summit, Missouri

MASTER BUILDER - SCENERY

Australasian Region

Robyn Taylor, Oxley, Queensland, Australia

Mid-Continent Region

William Scheerer, Lees Summit, Missouri

Mid-Eastern Region

Glyn Thomas, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Jeffrey Witt, Doylestown, Pennsylvania

MASTER BUILDER - PROTOTYPE MODELS

Mid-Eastern Region

Glyn Thomas, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

MODEL RAILROAD ENGINEER - CIVIL

Australasian Region

Robert McLear, Kingaroy, Queensland, Australia

Lone Star Region

James Williams, West Columbia, Texas

Mid-Eastern Region

Jeffrey Witt, Doylestown, Pennsylvania

Sunshine Region

Dr. Paul Reid, Valerico, Florida

MODEL RAILROAD ENGINEER - ELECTRICAL

Lone Star Region

James Williams, West Columbia, Texas

Mid-Eastern Region

Glyn Thomas, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Jeffrey Witt, Doylestown, Pennsylvania

Sunshine Region

Dr. Paul Reid, Valerico, Florida

CHIEF DISPATCHER

Sunshine Region

Richard Barker, Fort Pierce, Florida

ASSOCIATION OFFICIAL

Northeastern Region

Kenneth Fawler, Phippsburg, Maine
George Jarvis, Conception Bay, Newfoundland and Labrador, Canada

ASSOCIATION VOLUNTEER

British Region

Gordon Robinson, Dysart, Kingdom of Fife, Scotland

Mid-Continent Region

Mark Juett, Smithville, Missouri

Mid-Eastern Region

Charles Stevens, Lansdale, Pennsylvania
John Stralka, Ellicott City, Maryland

North Central Region

Bob Hanna, Defiance, Ohio
Jim Macino, Columbia City, Indiana

Rocky Mountain Region

Louis Anderson, South Jordan, Utah

MODEL RAILROAD AUTHOR

Mid-Eastern Region

Jerry Lauchle, State College, Pennsylvania

MASTER MODEL RAILROADER

MMR #616 Robert McLear, Kingaroy, Queensland, Australia
MMR #617 Mark Norman, Louisville, Kentucky



HAVE 50 MODEL RAILROADING CLINICS RIGHT IN YOUR LIVING ROOM.

Just because you can't make it to a national convention doesn't mean you have to miss out. Right now the NMRA's Kalmbach Memorial Library has over 50 DVDs of clinics presented at national conventions from 2002 to 2010. Each is available for NMRA members to borrow for the cost of processing and postage.

So you can see clinics on everything from decoders to design, tools to techniques, helixes to highways, and research to resin casting.

All from the comfort of your very own couch.

Visit www.nmra.org and go to the Kalmbach Memorial Library page for a complete listing. Or call the Library at 423-894-8144.

Then, get that popcorn ready.



We make it even more fun.

www.nmra.org



HOWDY LAMPRECHT EARNS MMR #610

The Road to My MMR

It all started with a Marx U.S. Army train-set under the Christmas tree at age 8. My dad had a small HO layout in the basement that I was not allowed to touch, so he had Santa bring me one. It was years later (in my 30s) that I asked Dad if he was doing anything on his model railroad, and he asked me if I wanted to help. Here was my opportunity to spend time with him and work on his train layout — one of the best decisions I ever made!

I will always cherish those memories of evenings in Dad's basement, reconnecting and learning from him. I sure am glad I did that! I found out how this great hobby really is. I had always enjoyed building models in my younger days, but now I discovered how relaxing, satisfying, and fun model railroading could be. No pressure and stress-free — what a combination! This hobby is the perfect way to get away from my cares, into the world of HO, and find some peace and serenity. *Oh, yeah!*

I learned about the NMRA while visiting local hobby shops. I was invited to a Division 6 meeting and found that there was *a lot* more to this hobby than I had realized. Visiting members' layouts allowed me to see how diverse they all were, from free-lanced layouts to Class I railroads that operated as such. Some of those layouts had scenery; some did not. I learned what I wanted: a layout with my own road name and logo. This hobby allows you to be as creative as your mind will take you.

When I visited a local logging layout powered with Shays, Heislars, and Climax locomotives, I was hooked! I wanted to model logging, but I needed a corporate name. After much thought, I took the name of the street I live on (Olive Avenue) and combined it with the city I live in (Grove City), and a new logging company was formed: The Olive Grove Lumber Company. I would model logging in the western mountains of Montana and Idaho. With a logo designed, decals made, and cars painted and lettered, I was rollin' and loving it!

In 1984, Division 6 was asked to build multi-scale layouts at the Ohio State Fair and have them running during the event. More opportunity to model! I built my first scratchbuilt structure (a sawmill) on a four-foot corner module while learning from many experienced modelers and building friendships. This setting also allowed me to earn some dispatching hours, and after completing some paperwork, I earned my Certificate for Chief Dispatcher. I was on my way to Master Model Railroader.

More ideas and inspiration followed after I visited a couple of small home layouts and attended some great National Conventions. I wanted a bigger layout with a switchback and a yard with engine facilities, but the 1992 National Convention in Columbus, Ohio, came up and I wanted to be involved in the planning stages. I entered a scratchbuilt sawmill in the National Contest; it didn't win, and that was okay. It did earn 103 points, which meant I had earned a Merit Award. What I learned from

the experience: build models for a Merit Award; if it wins, then it is icing on the cake. The Convention turned out great, and I earned my Association Volunteer Certificate. Full steam ahead!

It was now on to planning and building my model railroad. After attempting a couple of track plans that just didn't work, I needed more room if I wanted that switchback. It was now 1995, and two of our three boys had moved out, leaving the basement open for the taking (that is, after a discussion with my wife). Ideas and a track plan were now going down on paper for a 13x30-foot area. As I planned, I kept the requirements for other AP Certificates in mind: Scenery, Electrical, and Civil Engineering. Add in Structures and Cars, and that would meet the criteria for MMR. It took some doing, but becoming an MMR was always in the back of my mind. There were stretches of time that I wasn't making any headway. I wondered if I could do it. The paperwork seemed toilsome; I would rather be spending time building and running trains. One step at a time.

As 2018 approached, I had the models built but needed a few to be judged, and it all turned out good. I want to thank a few of the many people who motivated and inspired me along the way: Darrel & Judy Logan, Jim Ruisinger, (the late) Earl Lloyd, Division 6 AP Chairman Richard Briggs, and many others. A special thank you to my wife Bev for her support and the many late nights! One of the best parts of the Achievement Program, for me, was challenging myself. The result was I became a better modeler. I enjoy trying new methods and using different techniques. It was sometimes a little frustrating, but I still had fun. I would like to encourage you to keep on modeling and continue working toward your MMR. You *can* do it! Always remember to have fun!

Certificates Earned Howdy Lamprecht.

Chief Dispatcher
Association Volunteer
Master Builder-Scenery
Master Builder-Cars
Master Builder-Structures
Master Builder-Electrical
Master Builder-Civil Engineering