

NMRA BULLETIN

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**Have you changed your address or
other membership information?**

Notify NMRA Headquarters

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2023 NMRA National Convention Dates and National Train Show Reservations:
Dallas, Texas August 20 – 26, 2023 (<https://www.2023texasexpress.com/>)
Train Show Booth Reservations—Jenny Hendricks Registrar - P.O. Box 1328, Soddy Daisy, TN 37384-1328
423-892-2846 • ntsreg@nmra.org
• 2024—Long Beach, California

rev 8/6/2022

ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM

NMRA AP CERTIFICATE REPORT JULY 2022 GOLDEN SPIKE

Australasia Region

Graham Cocks, Hallett Cove, South Australia

Phil White, Kellyville, New South Wales, Australia

Mid-Continent Region

Greg Gramlich, Wentzville, Missouri

Mid-Eastern Region

Dale Leasure, Toms River, New Jersey

North Central Region

Irvin Chmielewski, Farmington Hills, Michigan

Pacific Northwest Region

George Fuchs, Hermiston, Oregon
Dewey Ypma, Manhattan, Montana
Sylvia Ypma, Manhattan, Montana

MASTER BUILDER - CARS

Lone Star Region

Marc LaChey, Richardson, Texas

MASTER BUILDER - STRUCTURES

Australasia Region

Ian Barnes, Batemans Cove, New South Wales, Australia

Lone Star Region

David Crumpton, Arlington, Texas

Mid-Central Region

Richard Turton, Morgantown, West Virginia

Midwest Region

Phillip Burnside, Avon, Indiana

Pacific Northwest Region

Sylvia Ypma, Manhattan, Montana

MASTER BUILDER - SCENERY

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Graham Cocks, Hallett Cove, South Australia, Australia

Mid-Eastern Region

Thom Radice, Long Branch, New Jersey

Pacific Northwest Region

Richard Hartley, Billings, Montana
Dewey Ypma, Manhattan, Montana
Sylvia Ypma, Manhattan, Montana

Sunshine Region

Allen Scott, Lake City, Florida

MASTER BUILDER - PROTOTYPE MODELS

Pacific Northwest Region

Sylvia Ypma, Manhattan, Montana

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Mid-Continent Region

Greg Gramlich, Wentzville, Missouri

Midwest Region

Gary Children, West Allis, Wisconsin

North Central Region

George Van Duyne, Bloomfield Hills, Michigan

Pacific Northwest Region

Wayne Bucher, Billings, Montana
Dewey Ypma, Manhattan, Montana

CHIEF DISPATCHER

Northeastern Region

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Pacific Northwest Region

Alan Matchett, Calgary, Alberta, Canada

Southeastern Region

David Whitehart, Hoover, Alabama

Sunshine Region

Kenneth Hoot, Jacksonville Beach, Florida

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Rocky Mountain Region

Kevin Anderson, North Salt Lake, Utah

MASTER MODEL RAILROADER®

MMR® 713 Michael May, Durango, Colorado

AP QUESTIONS: If you have questions about the AP program or requirements, start with your local or Region. If you still have questions, contact Frank Koch at fjkoch@hotmail.com. If you prefer to write, contact Frank at 4769 Silverwood Drive, Batavia, OH 45103.

THE MARK V NEW & IMPROVED O SCALE GAUGE FROM NMRA®

The NMRA® has a new O-Scale gauge for you. The new and improved 3 3/4" x 5 1/2" **MARK V** gauge is an upgrade from the Mark III gauge, and now features:

- Clearance measurements for tunnels, platforms and other right-of-way obstructions
- Appropriately named "Checkgage" tabs
- Newly added coupler height and centerline markers
- Stamp-imprinted instructions for correct
 - tab use for track dimension measurements
 - slot use for wheel dimension measurements with Mark III gauges.



The MARK V is also compatible with Mark III gauges.

\$19.95 NMRA® members **\$25.95** Non-members

Shipping: \$3 in the U.S. (TN residents must add 9.25% sales tax. All funds in U.S. dollars. V, MC, AMEX, DISC & PayPal accepted.)

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National Model Railroad Association

NMRA Awards and Honors 2022

Honorary Life Membership: The highest honor the NMRA can bestow upon one of its present or past members. It shall be given only in recognition of outstanding elective or voluntary service to the NMRA.

- Paul Voelker

The Distinguished Service Award: Awarded to those who have, directly or indirectly, member or non-member, given outstanding service to the hobby.

- Kevin EuDaly
- Joe Fugate

Pioneer in Model Railroading: Awarded to individuals who through their contributions have advanced the hobby of model railroading

- Bob Phelps, 1937–2022

The President's Award: Given by the NMRA President for outstanding service to the NMRA.

- Riley Triggs

President's Award for Division Service: The NMRA President's Award for Service to the Division is awarded by the NMRA President to one individual in a Division in each Region per year, who has done outstanding "beyond-the-call-of-duty" work to make his or her local Division effective, engaging, and welcoming to members. Individuals are recommended to the NMRA President by the NMRA National Board of Directors, National Officers,

or Region Presidents, as appropriate, and preferably always with the guidance of the Region Officials.

- Australasian, Merv Bagnall
- British, Chris James
- Lone Star, George Zapalac
- Mid-Eastern, Ernie Little, MMR®
- Mid-Central, Robert Osborn
- Mid-Continent, Whit Johnson
- Midwest, Allen Byrne
- Niagara Frontier, Pat Rivard
- North Central, no nominee
- Northeastern, Tage Erickson
- Pacific Coast, Pete Birdsong, MMR®
- Pacific Northwest, Burr Stewart, MMR®
- Pacific Southwest, Annette Palmer
- Rocky Mountain, Allen Grasmick
- Southeastern, Richard Fulkerson
- Sunshine, Jim Robertson
- Thousand Lakes, Mike Kaufman

Meritorious Service Award: Reflects dedicated and long-term service by a member for participation in one or more of the various administrative departments and/or committees of the association. The respective Department Head selects the recipient.

- Peter Youngblood, MMR®
- Larry Eggering
- Mark Juett, MMR®

THREE BIG BENEFITS OF NMRA MEMBERSHIP:



Those are the discounts that manufacturers and hobby shops in our Partnership Program are giving us right now. Partners like Micro-Mark®. Model Rectifier Corporation®. Badger Airbrush®. Unreal Details®. Hot Wire Foam Factory®. Logic Rail™ Technologies. And over 30 more companies. It's savings that can actually pay for your membership!

And are you taking advantage of our other big benefits? Like 150+ national convention clinic videos. Or over 15 hours of "how-to" videos produced by the biggest names in model railroading videos. Or our directory of model railroad layouts all over the world that you can visit. The list goes on and on.

If you haven't visited www.nmra.org lately, you're missing out on some really great stuff. Starting with a boatload of discounts!



We make it more fun.

DOUG BURTON

EARNs

MASTER MODEL RAILROADER® #704

My Road to My MMR®

I was born in 1959 and grew up on a farm at Abernethy, Saskatchewan — a small prairie town with a population of about 600. It is located approximately one hour northeast of Regina. I farmed there until 1993. I then went back to school to become a power engineer.

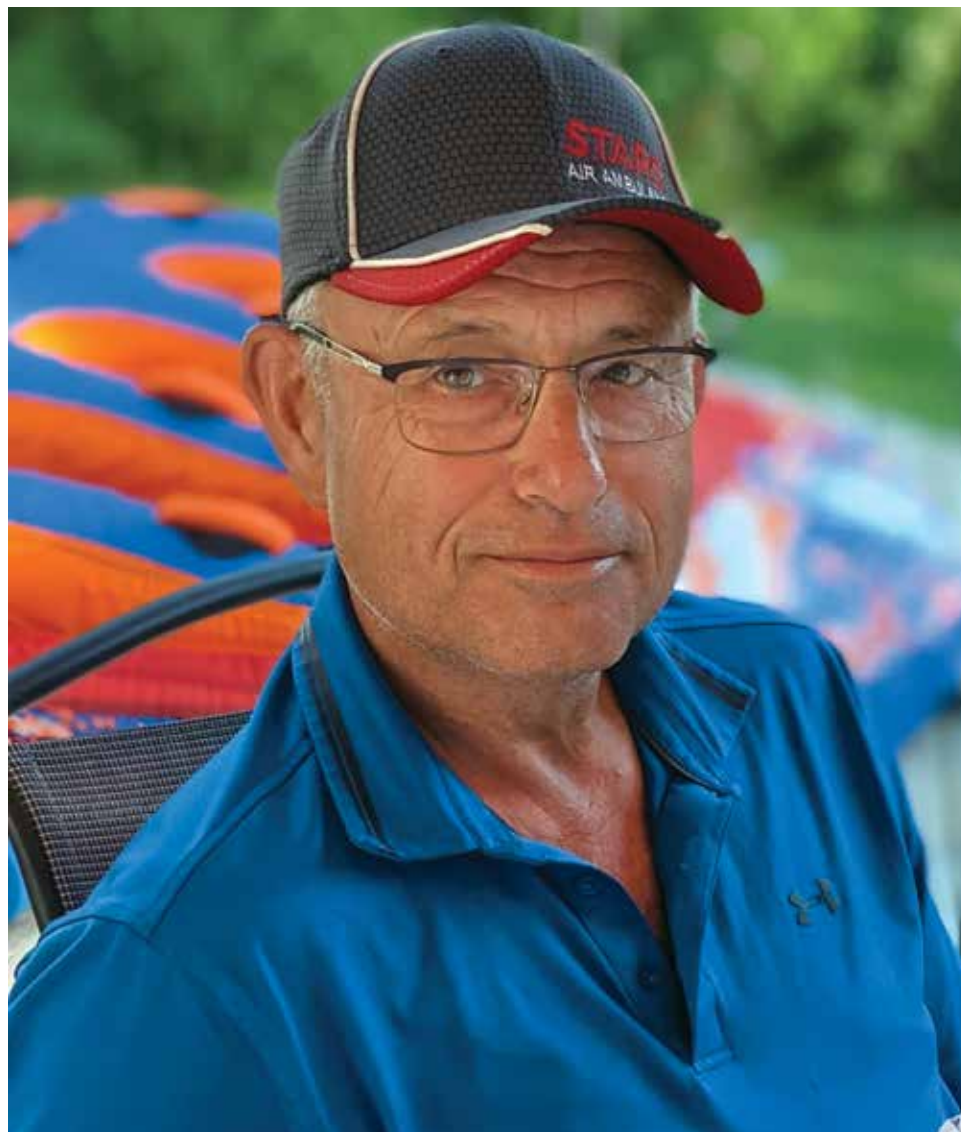
In the 1960s, I received a small three-rail train set as a birthday gift, and I remember building crude tunnels, card stock roads, and small buildings taped together.

In 1978, the local museum exhibited a display my neighbor had built of our small town in 1/4-scale. The module was about 14 square feet and had nothing to do with railways, although the module contained a railway track. After seeing this module, I messed around with making some buildings using 3/8-inch plywood in 1/4-scale. At this point, I didn't understand what O scale was. I did get some guidance from my neighbor, Mr. Penny, on how to build these miniature buildings.

In 1993, when I was in college in Saskatoon, I began visiting hobby shops (there were only two) to look for materials to build some of my old-style buildings. It was at this time that I first saw scale model trains.

In 1996, we moved to White City, Saskatchewan. We bought an Athearn train set for my son for Christmas. It had one GP40, six cars, and a caboose. I got hold of the Atlas track planning book and built Mike a small railway layout on a 4x8 sheet of plywood in the basement, and we began to run trains. As my interest grew, I found my first Walthers catalog. I could not believe what was in this book! Fortunately, there was one hobby shop in Regina where my serious interest in model railroading began. At this point, I still didn't know about the NMRA. I was still learning the difference between a GP, an SD, or an F-unit and what a road unit was. I started modeling because it was something I could do at the kitchen table and look after my 3- and 9-year-old kids as both my wife and I worked shift work.

In 1997, I found the Regina Railway Modellers. I was now surrounded by active railway modelers — a great group from



which I learned a lot. We even had an active Canadian National locomotive engineer in the club. I decided to model CNR during this time because I liked the 1950s green-and-yellow paint scheme. The biggest thing I realized was there was not much representation of the Canadian roads in the models being produced. So, I bought an airbrush and started stripping, painting, and decaling locomotives and freight cars. During this time, we also got the internet, and I discovered the CN Lines Special Interest discussion group. I found this group fascinating as they discussed the CNR from a modeling perspective in great detail. I could ask my naive questions and get answers from Stafford Swain, Reg Niel, Dan Kurlin, Al Lill, and others. I could go on and on with names. I still reference things I had copied from emails from that group and

had pasted into Word docs covering steam, diesel, passenger, freight, and maintenance-of-way, which was very important because if you wanted something CN, you had to kitbash and super-detail it to even get close. I have maintained a subscription to the group ever since.

During this time, I also started a bigger layout that only got as far as track. My father-in-law bought me a turntable and roundhouse for Christmas. I had acquired a Campbell UGG elevator kit, which was scary because if you made a mistake, there was no easy way to get more wood. I must have read those instructions at least a dozen times before building it. All these items are on my current layout. I also did my first scratchbuilt model of a five-foot PTO-driven rotary mower. When it was finished, I took it upstairs to show my wife. She said

THE NEW
**NMRA MODEL
 RAILROAD DIRECTORY**

IS NOW **ONLINE** and

READY TO USE!

Now whether you're at home or traveling, you can contact other NMRA members for a layout tour, to talk trains, or even to join in an op session! There are maps, descriptions, photos, videos, and more. And it's only available to NMRA members.

Visit www.nmra.org, click on "Member Home," then "Directory" to see layouts in your area or to list your own layout (as long as it's an operating home or garden railroad). Join in the fun!



We make it more fun!

it looked really good sitting on the dining table, and then in the next few minutes, she turned around and accidentally dropped the Sears catalog on top of it! I fixed it, and it is on my current layout.

In 2001, we moved to Bonnyville, Alberta, about three hours northeast of Edmonton, and there were very few modelers in this area. While living there, I started my second layout, again only getting to benchwork and track. I was doing more work on super-detailing cars, engines, resin kits, craftsman kits, and scratchbuilding. I would make my yearly pilgrimage to the Edmonton Model Railway Show for two days to take notes, ask questions, and see what others were doing. I saw models and talked to the likes of Sonny Potiuk and Doug Hole.

In 2006, we moved to Camrose, Alberta, and built a new house (our current home). I decided by this point that I was going to model June 1959. I also found the



PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

NMRA members can log in at www.nmra.org and click on the **Benefits** tab to view the **NMRA Partnership Program**. Please patronize all of our partners for some fantastic discounts as an NMRA member!

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WiFi Model Railroad LLC

Battle River Railway Modellers, a modular club. They were set up in the local shopping mall. At this time, I was flying in to work one or two weeks in and out of Fort MacMurray, Alberta.

In the next few months, I joined the NMRA and started to attend 6th Division events. I also set up DCC as soon as we moved to Camrose, and I was beginning to get an understanding of operations. As a member of the club, I had members in to do clinics on airbrush painting, installing DCC, constructing buildings, electrical, and scenery.

I have to say attending shows and meeting new people interested in the hobby is one of my favorite parts of being at shows. In fact, I often have the controller taken from me during shows as I spend too much time chatting with people instead of running the trains! At this fall's show (2022), I will be one of the presenters putting on clinics for people at a more entry-level. I have enjoyed my hobby and hope to inspire new modelers and help them progress as far as I have come if they wish. I believe we must keep up with the new technologies available to us to build even better models by acquiring new skills.

In 1996, I read the Master Model Railroader® information but never thought I would accomplish so much on a home layout. In 2017 — 21 years later — I had another look at it and thought I had most of this done already. So I began the process by receiving a Golden Spike in 2017. I then sent in the paperwork for Chief Dispatcher, Electrical, Scenery, and Civil in 2018, Structures in 2019, Association Volunteer in 2020, and Cars in 2022. I received my MMR® 26 years after first reading about it.

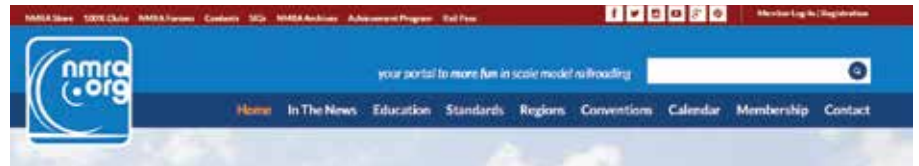
Model railroading is a great hobby. It has also allowed me to continue my lifelong interest in agriculture through modeling. Along the way, I have met some truly great modelers who have inspired me, and I really must thank them. There are too many to mention, but nine of them are MMR®s.

Certificates Earned
Doug Burton, MMR® #704
Chief Dispatcher
Model Railroad Engineer – Electrical
Master Builder – Scenery
Model Railroad Engineer – Civil
Master Builder – Structures
Association Volunteer
Master Builder – Cars

Finding Members Only Content on the NMRA Website



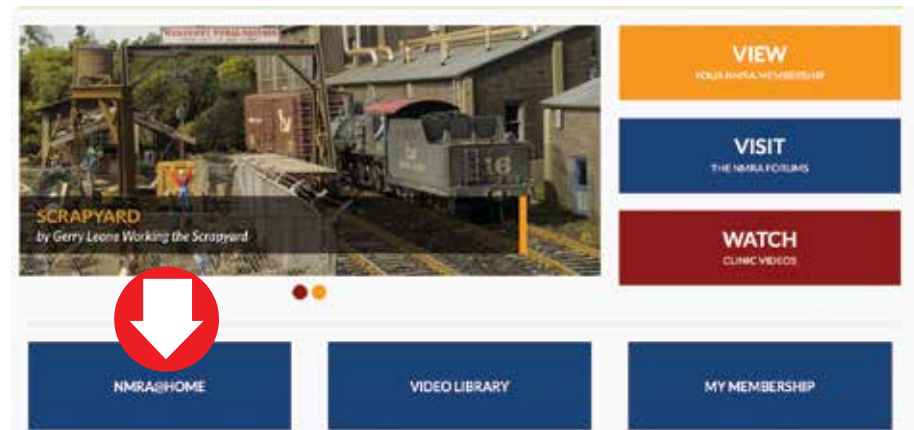
Looking for some great how-to modeling videos? Like to watch clinics from past NMRA conventions presented by some of the best modelers in the world? Maybe you'd like to watch some professional model railroad videos, or read the archive of modeling articles featured in the Division Business Car Column under the NMRA@HOME icon. (See the second screen grab below). All this and more is waiting for you in the Members Only section of the the NMRA website at NMRA.org.



The first thing to do is register. It only takes a few minutes.

First, click on the words “Member Log-In/Registration” on the right side of the red bar at the top of the page, which will open a new page. Next click on the blue bar that says, “Need a username? Register now.” You will be taken to a page called “User Account.” Enter a username and your email address, then click on the blue bar that says “Create New Account.” You’ll see a message that says an email confirmation has been sent to your inbox. Follow the instructions in the email to set your new password. That’s it!

Now whenever you go to the NMRA webpage, you can access all the Members Only content you want. Just click the “Member Log-In/Registration” heading on the red bar, enter your username and password, “Click Log In” and you’re there! For Division Business Car readers there’s even a shortcut. Just click on the link you’ll find in the NMRA Turntable, the e-publication that arrives every month in your inbox.



Now go ahead and access all the special content from the NMRA website only members can enjoy. It’s all waiting for you at NMRA.org.

Not getting the bi-monthly NMRA eBULLETIN?

The new **NMRA eBulletin** comes out every other month near the 1st of the month. Either your SPAM filter is blocking it, or you need to update your email address with us. Have HQ update your address at: <http://www.nmra.org/customer-service-request>