



# Sunrise Herald

October 2013 Volume 6, Number 10

## Notes from the Secretary

Your secretary was in Chicago at the time of the October meeting and has not received the notes from the meeting at publication time, so there will be no report this month. We will continue our information about the NMRA Achievement Program awards. This month we describe the Motive Power Award.

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### Next Meeting

Our next meeting will be November 7th, at Holy Love Lutheran Church, South Chambers Road, and we hope to see you there. Don Francis will present a clinic on making trees and Larry Stephens will present tool time: the many uses for clothespins.

### Show & Tell Themes

November 7.....Narrow gauge rolling stock  
December 5.....Christmas memories

## October Meeting Notes

Due to technical difficulties the October meeting notes are not available at this time

## Upcoming Events

November is National Model Railroad Month. In recognition of National Model Railroad Month the following N scale layouts will hold Open Houses on Saturday November 16, 2013 from 10:00AM to 4:00PM. All railroads are approximately 20 minutes driving time from each other.

Nov. 16-- National Model Railroad Month Crandic open house. *Will your layout have an open house to promote the hobby?*

**Paul Brennecke's Grand Road** is a model railroad completely filling an 8' x 13' room. It depicts about two miles of mainline railroad on the western slope of the Rocky Mountains of Colorado. The railroad was started in 1985, and finished about 1995, although, evolution of the model is ongoing. Time frame is contemporary which means modern diesels and distributed power trains. The Grand Road features a 56 car unit coal train, double stack (container) and TOFC (trailer on flat car) as well as general freight trains and AMTRAK #6 (No. 6 is the eastbound passenger train). The backdrop was painted from slides, all structures are scratch built, scenery is hard shell, train control is Digital Command Control (DCC) by NCE, route control is by diode matrix and there are seven hidden storage tracks under the visible portion of the layout. Purpose of the layout is rail fanning (watching trains) and is used for model photography. The layout has been featured in *Model Railroader*, *N Scale Railroading*, *Model Railroading* and *Model Railroad Journal*.

The Grand Road is located at 990 N Jackson St, Golden, CO 80403. Paul can be reached at 303-278-2180 H or 303-590-8299 C, email: [pb80403@yahoo.com](mailto:pb80403@yahoo.com).

**Patrick Lana's Cedar River and Iowa Central Railway** (The CRANDIC Route) is an island /walk-in style model railroad in a 22' x 44' L-shaped basement room. Features of this operations-oriented layout include many scratch-built and kit-bashed structures; unique rural agricultural scenery of corn, soybeans and other cropland; and many mini-scenes, some humorous and some showing everyday life on this 1968-era railroad. The freelanced CRANDIC uses DCC by Digitrax for train control and a computerized centralized traffic control system. An operating signal system includes working semaphores as well as searchlight signals. Started in 1996, the layout has been featured in the *NMRA Magazine*, *N Scale Railroading* and *Model Railroader* national magazines. The CRANDIC reflects the many talents of a crew that works and operates monthly. The CRANDIC is located at 13797 West Amherst Way, Lakewood CO 80228. Pat can be reached at 303-988-8474 H or email: [PgLana@comcast.net](mailto:PgLana@comcast.net).

**Moffat Modelers' Mainline thru the Rockies** is an N Scale 20' x 120' model railroad hosted by the Forney Museum based on historically accurate scenes starting at the Denver Union Station and proceeding west, through the towns of Arvada and Leyden, up around the 'Big Ten' curve and on to the Moffat Tunnel. The Moffat Modelers use DCC by Digitrax for train control and a computerized centralized traffic control system. An operating signal system includes searchlight signals. The Moffat Modeler's layout is located at the Forney Museum, 4303 Brighton Boulevard, Denver, Colorado 80216. Enter thru the gray steel door

(with the Union Pacific shield) at the top of the short staircase located in the rear parking lot to the left of the large loading dock doors. More information is available at their website: <http://moffatmodelers.org/index.html>. Point of contact for the 100% NMRA club is Frank Geramo at 303-371-1978 H or email: [fgermo@yahoo.com](mailto:fgermo@yahoo.com).

At each layout, please do not park in front of neighborhood mailboxes, fire hydrants or driveways. Children are especially welcome but must keep their parents and/or grandparents under control.

Nov. 30-Dec. 1-- Rocky Mountain Toy Train Show, Denver Merchandise Mart

Dec. 13-15 -- Boulder Model Railroad Club annual show at Boulder County Fairgrounds Exhibit Building.

Dec. 7-8 -- Train Expo Colorado (TECO), Freedom Financial Services Expo Center, 3650 N. Nevada Av., Colorado Springs.

## 2014

Feb. 15-16-- Estes Park Model RR Show <http://estesvalleymodelrailroaders.org/rails.htm>

June 13-15-- SER/MCoR NMRA Joint Regional Convention <http://mrtm.org/convention>

June 19-22-- NMRA Regional Golden Spike Limited, Salt Lake City <http://GSL2014.org>

July 13-19-- NMRA National Convention, Cleveland <http://www.2014cleveland.org/>

## What's New at Caboose Hobbies

Due to technical difficulties the list of new products at Caboose is not available at this time.

### Module Report

The weather has been cold so we have not been able to make much progress on our modules. However Don and Dick have been able to install reinforcement plates on all the leg pockets so that we expect to have no more breakage there. We have also checked out the new electrical connections and have done a little additional scenery work.

Our next show will be November 30 and December 1 at the Merchandise Mart. We have some structures ready to place on the modules for that show, but still need more. Contact Don Francis for a list of what we need.

### October Show and Tell



Don Francis entered this Revell enginehouse.



Steve Schweighofer entered this N-scale water tank, a plastic injection-molded kit produced by Dimi-Trains about 30 years ago. It was built straight out of the box. He received the Caboose gift certificate.



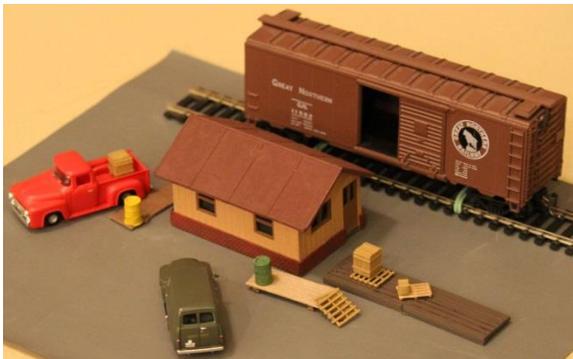
Dick Hunter submitted these four maintenance structures



Ernee Edwards presented this depot with the removable roof showing his well-detailed interior.



Bob Rothgery built this brewery.



John Kerbaugh entered this REA business.

## The NMRA Achievement Program Award

In simple terms, the Achievement Program (AP) is a travel guide, to help you on your journey through the world of model railroading. The AP also provides incentive to learn and master the many crafts and skills necessary in the hobby of model railroading. With the completion of each category, you will be issued a certificate acknowledging your achievement.

The AP requirements are a set of standards, but they can also serve as a set of guideposts for those who are new, near-new, and not-so-new to the hobby. Not because they lead to some sort of official pat-on-the-back, but because they are a source of ideas for projects that can help us learn to become better modelers.

Briefly, the AP is a system of requirements for demonstrating a superior level of skill in various aspects of our hobby. It covers not only building various types of models, but also building other things which are important to the hobby, such as scenery, structures, track work, and wiring. It also recognizes service to the hobby and the NMRA, which are important as well. Use the links on the right to explore the different certificates and requirements.

We hope that you will soon find just how easy it is to participate in the Achievement Program, and if you are not yet involved start you off on the right foot. Please visit the AP Staff Roster page to find contact information for your Regional AP Manager.

## Motive Power AP Achievement Award Requirements

First, let's define what is meant by "Motive Power": it is any type of steam, diesel, or electric locomotive, traction unit, maintenance vehicle, or other type of self propelled vehicle that runs on rails. This includes everything from speeders to streetcars to Big Boys. It does not include things that are powered models of unpowered vehicles (like hand cars) or unpowered models of powered prototypes (like dummy locomotives).

Contact your Regional AP Manager if you have a question about which category a particular model would fall into.

To qualify for the Master Builder - Motive Power certificate:

1. Build three scale models of railroad motive power, one of which must be scratchbuilt. Motive Power is defined as a locomotive or a self-propelled vehicle.
  - A. To qualify as scratchbuilt, the motive power must contain the following scratchbuilt items as applicable:
    - Steam Locomotives: frame, boiler, cab, tender, frame, body, either valve gear or main and side driving rods.
    - Other Motive Power: body, frame, cab, power truck side frame, pantograph or trolley poles where appropriate.
    - All models must be capable of self-propulsion on track of the same gauge as the model. Power trains for all models may be commercial motors and gears.
    - All models must be super detailed either with scratchbuilt parts or with

commercial parts as defined in the Definitions Section.

Remember the phrase: "...real individual craftsmanship is demonstrated." It will show up again, both in the letter and the spirit of the AP requirements. For example, let's say you come across a magazine article on super-detailing a Santa Fe GP-30, but you model the D&RGW. With a little research, you may find that there were some subtle differences between the two roads' versions of this locomotive (different types of radio antennas or headlights, addition of snowplows, etc.). Changing the types of detail added to match a specific prototype is something that demonstrates 'individual craftsmanship'. Make sure and remember to describe the changes that you made and the reasons behind them in your documentation.

- B. The following parts are specifically excluded from the scratch built requirement (*although you may scratch build them to earn additional points*):
  - Motor
  - Gears
  - Drivers and wheels
  - Couplers
  - Light bulbs & electronics
  - Trucks
  - Paint, decals, etc.
  - Bell
  - Marker and classification lights
  - Brake fittings

- Basic shapes of wood, plastic, metal, etc.

("Basic shapes are things that builders of the prototype would have used as raw materials. For example an "I" beam would be a basic shape; a commercial door or window casting would not.)

- C. The term "scratch built" implies that the modeler has done all of the necessary layout and fabrication that produces the final dimensions, appearance, and operating qualities of the model.

This is a good statement of the intent and spirit of the 'scratch built' requirement. Notice that it does not say that the use of a few commercial detail parts will disqualify the model as being "scratch built". In general, the same standard applies that is used in contest judging:

*"Completely Scratch built" means that 90% or more of the model was scratch built. (But you do need to scratch build the listed in requirement 1-A above.) Taking an existing model and modifying it to be a powered model is not considered "scratch building."*

Examples of this would be taking a passenger car and converting it into a trolley, or a box car and converting it into a box-cab locomotive. These do not meet the definition or the spirit of the term "scratch built" given above.

2. Earn a Merit Award of at least 87.5 points with each of the three scale models of motive power either via an NMRA sponsored contest or AP Merit Award Judging.

3. You must submit a Statement of Qualification which includes the following:

- An attachment giving a detailed description of each model, including:
  - Identification of all scratch built features
  - All commercial components used
  - Materials used in building the model
  - Copies of the plans you used are NOT required, but many people do submit them.
- Verification of the Merit Awards (photocopies of the certificates)
- Photos of the model are helpful, but not required.

#### Further Information

Contact National Achievement Program General Manager, Paul Richardson, MMR [achiev@hq.nmra.org](mailto:achiev@hq.nmra.org), or your Region or Division Achievement Program Manager for more information.

Also refer to the article "Master Builder - Motive Power," NMRA Bulletin, December 1992.

Forms available for this category:

- SOQ Form: ([PDF](#))
- Record and Validation form: ([PDF](#))
- Judging Form: ([PDF](#))