



Sunrise Herald

September 2014 Volume 7, Number 9

Sunrise Division Officers

Superintendent.....Steve Schweighofer
Asst. Superintendent.....Frank Germo
Secretary.....Stewart Jones
Treasurer.....Bill Johnson
Program Chair.....Gary Myers

In the Herald

Notes from the Secretary.....1
Next Meeting.....1
Upcoming Clinics.....1
Upcoming Tool Times.....1
Upcoming Show and Tell Themes.....1
September Division Meeting.....1
September Tool Time.....3
September Show and Tell.....3
September Clinic.....4
Scam Alert.....4
NMRA Achievement Program Awards.....5

Notes from the Secretary

I have been including requirements for the NMRA Achievement Program for a number of months. This month I describe Author award. I think that I have cycled through all the awards now. However we haven't been announcing many AP awards for members lately, so I am going to cycle through them again

Next Meeting

Our next meeting will be Thursday, October 2, at Holy Love Lutheran Church.

Upcoming Clinics for 2014

Oct - 3D Printing - Doug Semon
Nov - MoPac in Colorado - Bob Hochstetter
Dec - Movie & Seasonal Treats
Jan - Moffatt Modelers - Frank Germo

Upcoming Tool Times for 2014

October – Open
November - Open

Upcoming Show 'n' Tell Themes for 2014

Oct 2 - Sports
Nov 6 - Mail
Dec 4 - Switcher Engines

September Division Meeting

Attendees:

Ernee Edwards, Gary Myers, Steve Schweighofer, Dick Hunter, Larry Buyck, John Kerbaugh, John Griffith, Bob Rothgery, Bob Hochstetter, Bill Johnson, Barry Allison, Dillon Allison, Doug Semon, Paul Siebels, Al Johnson, Wayne Parker, Dennis Hagen, Ed Mark, Jack Getz, John Grigg, Larry Stephens

Nonmembers: Wayne Parker (?), Dillon Allison (?), John Grigg

Region Announcements:

Gary Myers, Region President, commented on recent Region news.

- planning for a 2017 or 2018 Regional convention bid.

Nov 7-9 Wasatch Rails,
Fairgrounds, Salt Lake City, UT

Nov 15-16 Rails Along the
Rio Grande, Albuquerque, NM

Dec 6-7
Show, Colorado Springs, CO

Feb 13-14 Rails in the Rockies

Toy Train Collectors Show, Merchandise Mart - Bill Johnson discussed the TCA Show for the Saturday-Sunday of the Thanksgiving weekend, November 29-30th. We generally provide clinics and get paid \$20 per clinic. Several clinicians have donated their proceeds to the Division. The TCA would like to put out advertising on what clinics will be performed ahead of time, so if you would like to do one or more clinics, please contact Bill Johnson asap with a description of your clinic and what day(s) you would like to do it.

Railroad Model Craftsman (RMC) – Has been sold to White River Productions (NMRA Magazine publishers).

Model Railroader (MR) – Dillon Allison has a collection of MRs available for anyone interested. It looks like MR will be putting out the last 5 years of MR on CD again possibly, and every 5 years after that (hopefully).

Caboose Hobbies Announcements—
Bill Johnson mentioned that new Blackstone high side gondolas and flat cars are in, a new

Program Certificates – Gary Myers, Sunrise Program Chair, presented Dennis Hagen with a Certificate of Appreciation for opening his layout for the May 9th Sunrise Spring Layout Tour.

Sunrise Boy Scout Coordinator – Ernee Edwards has volunteered to take over the Sunrise Boy Scout position.

Sunrise Convention Committee – A preliminary committee has met to begin

Lincoln Funeral train book, new Bachmann steam engines coming, new Intermountain SD-40-2, KATO will be doing the 844 in an excursion train (which can be ordered) in N-Scale.

Bob Hochstetter discussed the new SurroundTraxx (from Soundtraxx), which works on Digitrax systems with speakers placed around your layout, with the sound coming and going on the speakers depending on where the engine is on the layout. This is especially useful in N-Scale, where it is harder to fit sound decoders in engines. Bob can demonstrate the system to anyone who is interested when he is at the store. The system only is compatible with Digitrax.

The construction around the store on Virginia Avenue is scheduled to be complete in 45 days, which ever day anyone asks when it is going to be complete.

September Tool Time

Bob Hochstetter provided a PowerPoint presentation and passed around typical 3M electrical connectors, nicknamed suitcase connectors. The cheaper, Asian aftermarket connectors are of poor quality and Bob recommends only the 3M brand. Using suitcase connectors to connect track feeders under the table to your bus line will save you having to make lots of underneath solder connections. The wire is slid in, the blade is pushed down and the connector cover is folded over to lock. Bob stressed that it is critical to use the specified wire gauge only, or they will not work reliably or at all.

The 905 size uses a 14-18g run wire and 18-22g tap wire.

The 902 size uses a 10-12g run wire and 14-18g tap wire.

The wires can be solid or stranded copper (not AL). A special \$30 crimping tool from 3M works extremely well for closing the connectors from any angle, which is almost always needed. A regular pair of pliers must be applied exactly perpendicular to close the connectors without ruining them, so the special crimpers are much

easier to use. A box of 50 connectors is usually available for \$9.99

September Show N Tell



Ernee Edwards displayed a N&W 3 bay covered hopper, and had some info about railroad photos on RailcarPhoto.com, which has over 63000 photographs.



John Griffith displayed 2 40' box cars with grain doors, made from resin inserts for the grain.



Larry Stephens made some farm field, from corrugated paper, painted brown with green lichens along top of the corrugations to make a field of growing vegetation. The effect came out very well.

John Griffith was the Caboose Hobbies winner for Show N Tell.

September Clinic: Locomotive Classifications and Naming Conventions – Steve Schweighofer

Steve entertained and educated us with an interactive clinic on the history of the development of the steam engine, how improvements and modifications were made and how and why the names became associated with each development.

Closing

We adjourned around 9 pm with a few of us going to the Village Inn at Chambers and Iliff for some late night coffee and pie.

Scam Alert

I just received the following scam alert from Gary Myers

Be aware that our old friend Stephen James THURSTON has appeared again, this time on a Facebook N Scale Sale Group where he just caught one of the members in the old "Athearn Challenger" scam. (he had also advertised the famous Daylight 4-8-4 and also the DCC stuff as well, that he had previously pedaled on our group)
The name he used there was Stephen JAMES, and he used the same postal box in Seymour Indiana that he had used on the last attempt he pulled on our group. I really believe that it is only a matter of time before he attacks our group again. What he did on the Facebook group was join under one name, then once admitted to the group, changed his profile, which apparently slipped by unnoticed until it was too late. I strongly suspect that what he will try here is to come up with a new, unknown name and address

/locale/zip/area code/ in order to get onto the group and then post stuff for sale, then once he makes a deal, he will have some compelling reason to request the payment be sent to a different person/address. He is still requesting payment by check or money order. A second approach would be to have his daughter become the member(or the payment receiver) (he is war vet and in the hospital, etc. etc.).

Hopefully, he will not try a return, but this guy has nerve, so I would ask all members to remain vigilant, and if you see something that is questionable, let the list owners/moderators know immediately and do not under any circumstances send money until your issues have been resolved. Any deal that looks too good to be true, generally is. We try to screen all postings closely, but as you know, membership is open, and we do not see the replies to ads, so that is where your vigilance comes into play. A list of known Alias' and Associates is as follows:-

Stephen James THURSTON

Steve THURSTON

Stephen JAMES

JIM THURSTON

Paul THURSTON

Brandy THURSTON (Daughter)

Candith PADGETT

Allen (Al) TRUMBO

James McCulley (Scranton PA)

With the exception of the PENN. address, all activity has been based around the Indianapolis area, and the area between Indianapolis and Louisville, Ky.

My personal pursuit of this thief is far from over. I had been stymied by several problems, a

key one being that until very recently an inability to get all the information I have accumulated by way of email, onto a disc, which is the format requested by the Indianapolis PD. I have just last week finally found a computer guru locally here who claims he can do that, so once I get the folder organized, that will be done and the information then forwarded to several different law enforcement agencies, as well as the media. Hopefully justice will eventually prevail..... but in the meantime, STAY ALERT. For convenience, and expediency, I can be contacted direct at "traveler@xplornet.com" if anyone has the need.

Tom McKenna

The NMRA Achievement Program Award

Master Builder - Cars

A "Car" is just about anything that runs on rails and is NOT self-propelled (if it's self-propelled, it's Motive Power). This includes freight cars, passenger cars, maintenance of way cars (including equipment such as cranes), cabooses, cable cars, unpowered (dummy) locomotives, etc. Actually, if you have a model which is self propelled, but is a model of something that was designed to carry something (besides itself), such as a rail car, it can be used as one of the qualifying models for either Motive Power or Cars, BUT NOT BOTH.

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 - Cars certificate:

1. You must build eight operable scale models of railroad cars:

"Operable" means that they must be able to roll on the track, negotiate a curve, be pulled

by something, etc. It doesn't mean that every door, valve, or other moving feature of the car must work as the prototype does. (However, any operating features that you can include in your car are likely to increase your score.)

1. There must be at least four different types of cars represented in the total of eight. One of these must be a passenger car.

The intent of this requirement is show that you can model a variety of types of cars, not just several variations of the same type. For example: a 40' steel-side box car and a 36' wood side reefer would be different types of cars, but a 40' steel-side box car and a 50' steel-side box car probably would not (unless you can show that there was a substantial difference in what it took to build them). Similarly, a wood deck flat car and a steel deck flat car would not be considered "different" types of cars, but a regular flat car and a depressed center flat car would, because it is a substantially different type of car to build.

"Passenger cars" include anything that would normally be found in a regular scheduled passenger train including baggage cars, express reefers, business cars, or other passenger carrying cars like drover's cabooses.

Remember, it is only four different types that are required: you could build a set of five identical passenger coaches, a box car, a tank car, and a gondola, and satisfy the requirement.

2. Each of the eight models must be [super detailed](#) with either commercial parts or scratch built parts (for extra points).

When looking for ways to super detail your cars, brake wheels, grab irons and ladders are good places to start - particularly by replacing the "molded on" ones that the car came with. That's where many judges start looking. Another area that many judges look for is the under-frame brake gear.

3. In addition to being super detailed, at least four of the eight models must be scratch built. The term "scratch built" implies that the modeler has done all of the necessary layout and fabrication that produce 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.

The following parts are specifically excluded from the scratch built requirement:

- Wheels
- Couplers
- Light bulbs & electronics.
- Trucks.
- Brake fittings.

- Marker lights & drumheads.
- Paint, decals, etc.
- Basic shapes of wood, plastic, metal, etc.

("Basic shapes" are things that the 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.)

Something that you should remember if the idea of 'scratch building' intimidates you: There is very little difference between scratch building and building most craftsman kits. The big difference is that in a kit, the manufacturer has assembled the materials that you will need for you. Only the construction needs to be done from scratch. If you take someone else's plans and instructions (even those from a kit) and go to the hobby shop and buy the materials yourself and assemble them, that qualifies as scratch building. On the other hand, if you do develop your own plans, make sure that you tell the judges that, as it will earn you extra points.

2. You must earn a score of at least 87-1/2 points on four of the eight models in either an NMRA sponsored contest or in AP Merit Award judging.

Note that only four of the eight must earn 87-1/2 points. The others don't even have to be judged! They do all have to be described on the Statement of Qualification (see below).

3. You must submit a Statement of Qualification (see SOQ below), which includes the following:

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

- An attachment giving a detailed description of each of the eight models, including:
 - Identification of all scratch built features
 - All commercial components used
 - Materials used in building the model
 - If the model is a kit, whose kit is it?
- Verification of the Merit Awards (photocopies of the certificates)
- Photos of the model are helpful, though not required.

Remember that your eight cars do not have to be from the same era, or part of the country. They don't even have to be the same scale. You also don't have to earn your four Merit Award certificates at the same time - you can earn one this year, another two years from now, and another the year after that.

Further Information

For further information contact National Achievement Program General Manager, Paul Richardson, MMR, achiev@hq.nmra.org, or your [Region or Division Achievement Program Manager](#).

Also refer to the articles "[Master Builder - Cars](#)," NMRA Bulletin, February 1992, and "[Merit Award Winning Cars](#)" NMRA Bulletin March 1992.

Forms available for this category: