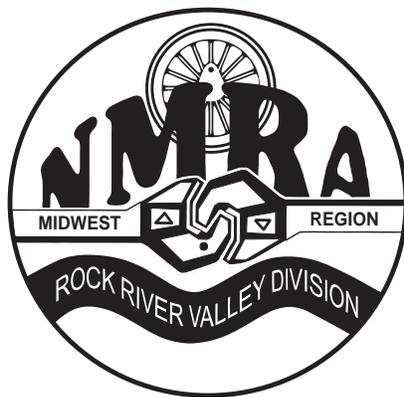


# MODEL RAILROADERS

National Model Railroad Association, Midwest Region, Rock River Valley Division

# F L I M Z I E



Volume 41

Number 4

Summer 2009

## Don Brindle Deems the Midwest Region Convention Very Successful

### “Ride the Line - 2009”

With Don Brindle

Midwest Region Convention is now in the history books. If you were not able to make it, you missed a great convention. We had about 127 attendee's. The convention started out Friday night with 3 operating sessions and 6 clinics, and the Rockford Club Car (hospitality suite), not to mention the first of 3 layout tour sessions.

Saturday morning had 10 more clinics and Saturday afternoon was the 2nd layout tour session. Saturday night's

banquet was followed by a great slide show by Randy Garnhart and Jerry Pyfer featuring only steam engines, followed by the MWR business meeting, contest awards (way to go, Don Lewis and Marion Brasher!!!), and the auction. Although the contest and auction entries were a bit lighter than our past conventions, the competition was just as keen.

Sunday morning saw the MWR Board of Directors meeting, and Sunday afternoon was the 3rd layout tour sessions. In all we had 33

layouts open. I think this is a record. If you missed the convention, you probably missed an excellent opportunity to visit some layouts that aren't available for viewing very often.

I would like to extend my thanks in particular to my committee chairmen: Dick Caudle, Jim McQueeney, Tom McCabe, Clarence Welte, Joe Whinnery, and Ray Dyreson, not to mention everyone who volunteered to man a table (or carry a table!). It's because of your efforts that the convention was a success.

**RRVD Officers**

**Superintendent**

John Mann  
7303 Farmhome Ln  
Cherry Valley, IL 61016  
815-332-2496  
jjmannmmr@comcast.net

**Assistant Super.**

Tom McCabe  
844 Ramona Terrace  
Machesney Park, IL 61115  
815-505-6313  
tmccabe@quantumdi.com  
Pregn1@aol.com

**Chief Clerk**

Les Zimmerman  
604 Oak Knolls Ave.  
Rockford, IL 61107  
815-394-1337  
zimmfair@aol.com

**Paymaster**

Rich Woock  
2490 Austin Pl.  
Beloit, WI 53511-2325  
608-362-7875  
tokencr@charter.net

**FLIMZIE Staff**

**Editor / Mail Roster**

Ron Anderson  
2720 Sandhutton Ave. #11  
Rockford, IL 61109-7544  
815-986-8854  
crabbo@comcast.net

**Summer Junket  
Layout tours  
Dick Caudle**

***Saturday July 11th 2009***

At 9:30am, we will meet just north of the Amcore Bank in the Alpine village parking lot (corner of Harrison Ave. and S. Alpine Rd. Rockford), [map quest will use this location as a destination, for those of you who may not be familiar with the area] Hand out maps for the tour, will be available and we will leave "BEFORE" 10am. THIS WILL BE AN ALL DAY TOUR!!! We should be on our way back about 4pm. Bring your I-Pass! The railroads are in the Chicago area suburbs.

The tour is of "TWO" "LIVE STEAM RAILROADS"!!!

One with 700' of track in service now, with an extension to the back yard next door under construction.

The other is a club with 19.6 scale miles of track, (At 1 1/2" = 1 FT.) Time table, train order operation, on a loop of track operated as a single track main line, point to point, with the trains being turned at the main yard which serves as both ends of the railroad.

**This tour is not a National Model Railroad Association function.**

If you plan to attend please e-mail Dick Caudle at steamboat43@comcast.net ,or leave a message at 815-874-7695. (E-mail preferred)

***FLIMZIE and Post Card Program***

As Editor of this quarterly paper and mail coordinator, I must continue to stress the following regulations, as set forth in our By-Laws..

1. If you are a registered active member of the NMRA
2. If you attend one or more monthly meets and sign in.
3. If you submit the sum of \$5.00 for a one year subscription.
4. If you are listed on RRVDs Special Interest Persons (SIP).

You can not apply to be added to the SIP list. Additions to this list can only be accomplished via the BOD

In addition, if you do not maintain an up-to-date mailing address with our organization, your name will be removed from the list. This will be determined at the time the Postal Department returns mail to me.

**MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

National Model Railroad Association, Inc.  
4121 Cromwell Road  
Chattanooga, TN 37421

Enclosed Amount  
of Annual Dues

- |  |         |
|--|---------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Regular Membership</b>                                       | \$58.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Family Member</b> ( <i>Spouse or Minor Child of Member</i> ) | \$8.00  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Students</b> under 25 or any person 18 yrs or under          | \$28.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Membership without <b>Scale Rails &amp; NMRA Bulletin</b>       | \$39.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Sustaining Member</b> ( <i>Club/Business</i> )               | \$97.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Midwest Region <b>Waybill</b> Subscription                      | \$6.00  |

(NOTE: Life Membership No Longer Available)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

**Superintendent's Report**

**John Mann**

I am John Mann and I am the new Superintendent of the Rock River Valley Division. I would like to thank my predecessor, Don Brindle, for his hard work during his four year tenure as Superintendent. I will have big shoes to fill. Congratulations Don and thank you. Dick Caudle is also stepping down as Assistant Superintendent although he will continue to organize the monthly layout tours. Tom McCabe, a former Superintendent, is the new Assistant Superintendent. Les and Rich will continue in their roles as Chief Clerk and Paymaster respectively. Thanks guys.

I have been Assistant Superintendent and Paymaster at various times during the past 19 or so years that I have been involved with the Division. In addition, I have organized several scratchbuilding projects and given several clinics over the years. I am a Master Model Railroader (MMR #213) and was the Region AP chair for a number of years. I was also a Region Director at Large (Large Director?) I have been the registrar for several Region Conventions. I have always enjoyed the friends I have met through the division. I am an S Gauger and model the CB&Q in the Sixties through a freelance Chicago, Rockford and Northern which is based on the premise that the Burlington went to St.Paul through Rockford instead of Savanna.

A lot of my equipment and buildings are scratchbuilt. I also collect Gilbert American Flyer.

I would like to see the Division grow by attracting new members who are hopefully younger than my 57 years. I want to see the Show and Sale continue to flourish as it is the best way we have to expose the public to our hobby. Also the Young Engineer program is an excellent way to reach younger people. We will be exploring options regarding the modular layout.

Your thoughts and suggestions are welcome and I can be reached at 815-332-2496.

**ALTERING THE CREW**

Gary D. Loiselle

**1) RECOGNITION**

On behalf of the Rock River Valley Division, I would like to extend our congratulations and recognition of accomplishment to Dale Burge and Don Lewis. Dale has received a Golden Spike Certificate and Don has received the Achievement Program certificate for Model Railroad Author.

**2) ELECTION RESULTS**

The election of officers in the RRVD has historically come down to the narrowest of margins and this year was no exception. John Mann (MMR) has succeeded Don Brindle in the position of Superintendent.

Tom McCabe has succeeded Dick Caudle as Assistant Superintendent. Les Zimmerman and Rich Woock remain in office as Chief Clerk and Paymaster, respectively. As We hear of Divisions that are becoming inactive or even dissolving, we are very fortunate to have individuals in the RRVD that continue to provide the time and talent necessary to keep us moving forward.

Thank you to our outgoing officers for their time of service. To our new and incumbent officers, we applaud your commitment and will support your efforts on behalf of the RRVD As a postscript, I should mention that Don continues to serve on the Board of Directors and Dick will continue to coordinate layout tours.

**3) FLEENER AWARD**

The Fleener Award presented to Don Brindle states:

**“In memory of Lyle Fleener,** and in recognition of service to the Rock River Valley Division of the National Model Railroad Association which best exemplifies Lyle’s contribution and Commitment to furthering the success of the Division and the hobby of Model Railroading.”

For those of us who knew Lyle, and have been around the Division for any length of time, it is not difficult to recognize and appreciate Don’s efforts as Division Superintendent over the past four years, and, at the same time, chairing the Midwest Region 2009 Spring Convention. On behalf of the RRVD, and the appreciation of all, thank you Don.

**127 YOUNG ENGINEERS  
BUILD BOX CARS  
at the 18th annual  
Show & Sale  
Ron Johnson**

One Hundred twenty seven young engineers enjoyed the process of assembling their own box car again this year. These engineers consisted of 106 boys and 21 girls. Although the number was down from last year when 150 young engineers assembled box cars. The availability to assemble a box car in a more quiet area, in the band room away from the crowds of train show enthusiast offered the youngsters the opportunity to talk quietly about their project with RRVD members. Then after completing the assembly of their rolling stock, the young engineers were given the opportunity to pull their newly assembled box car, around on the (thanks to Dale Burge) renovated Rockford Route.

Something new was added this year. Five notes indicating the owner of this box car had won a complete new train set. These notes were randomly place in five different boxes. Every young engineer that won a train was very excited - to say the least! It took the efforts of all the RRVD members present and the parents of one little boy of about seven and his younger brother of about five who found a note in their box, to be retrieved off the ceiling! They were two VERY excited little

boys and two future model railroaders - for sure.

Some kids stayed around for some time after finishing their box car, running our trains around the Rockford Route. Though, as you know, the train simply runs around in a large circle,

But to the youngsters, running the trains and blowing the engines's horn, was as real to them as it is to us, running our trains around in a larger circle. This year the following RRVD members assisted these young engineers and perhaps future model railroaders, to build their box car.

Thanks to: Joe Whinnery, Clarence Welte, Dennis Blunt, Ken Mosny, Ray Dyreson and Jay Kabitzke. Without whose help we could not do without. I hope I didn't miss anyone, but if I did, please accept my apology as I am sorry.

I want to especially recognize and thank Julie Marquandt. This young lady signed up all the young engineers at the RRVD information table both Saturday and Sunday. She did an outstanding job! Although she is only twelve years old, it would have been much more difficult to operate the Young Engineers program without her.

We are looking forward to next years 19th annual Show & Sale, where we hope to exceed the previous Young Engineer Participants.

**Show and Sale  
2009  
Jim Studer**

We had another successful Show and Sale this year, several train sets were given away to our young engineers, as well as many quality door prizes that were raffled out to many adults. We had our second annual Young Engineers Program also we had a really good turn out for this activity. We had a good turn out of vendors , layouts and displays this year. I think in all the Show and Sale was a real success. I would like to thank all of you who volunteered their time to this show. I don't want to be completely in charge next year I don't have the right equipment to do it but I would like to volunteer my services.

---

**Editors Note:**

I am planning to start a new section of information which will designed and directed to those who are in need of assistance or help in the beginning or continuation of a starter system for Model Railroading.

My hopes are to generate enough interest in the "Master Modeler" group to present articles and columns to share their experiences and trade secrets for those in dire need for beginning and/or continuing the interest in this Great Hobby.

I would appreciate any and all assistance that will be rendered.

# HobbyTown USA®

A NATIONAL FRANCHISE



Our **HobbyTown USA®** has been open since July 1992 and serves the entire Northern Illinois region.

We are a full-line hobbyshop with 10,000 square feet of retail space.

Our specialties include:

- Model Railroading
- Radio Controlled Cars and Planes
- Skateboards
- Tools & Paints
- Plastic Models
- Metal Detectors
- Airsoft Guns
- Wooden Toys
- Model Rockets
- Slot Car Sets
- Boy Scout Uniforms and Supplies

We are constantly changing our inventory. Special ordering is available and unlike ordering on the internet, there are no shipping costs.

JOHN A. CURTIS ~ Owner  
3782 North Alpine Road  
Rockford, IL 61114

Phone (815) 282-0727 • Fax (815) 282-0833  
*See our Franchise Stores Nationwide!*



(815) 963-0200  
Fax (815) 963 0285



**Midwest Rail Junction**  
Your Source for HO & N Model Railroad Products  
[www.midwestrailjunction.com](http://www.midwestrailjunction.com)

Scott Matejka  
Owner

1907 Cumberland St.  
Rockford, IL 61103-4763

Additional 10% discount with this coupon.

10%



**Midwest Rail Junction**  
Your Source for HO & N Model Railroad Products  
[www.midwestrailjunction.com](http://www.midwestrailjunction.com)

Scott Matejka  
Owner

1907 Cumberland St.  
Rockford, IL 61103-4763

Additional 10% discount with this coupon.

10%

In Store Only.

Valley Mon-Fri 3-8 PM  
Sat 9-4 PM  
 “HO” TRAINS “N”  
**Roundhouse**  
 Home of the ROCKSHOP  
 A model railroad shop run by a model railroader



PHONE 815/663-3411      The Valley's only Train Shop      122 W. ST. PAUL  
 MARION G. BRASHER      Check our selections - You'll like our prices!      SPRING VALLEY, IL 61362

# Introducing the best deal in model railroading.

Join the NMRA for 6 months for just \$9.95\*!

## Sign me up!

Fill out this form and include your payment. **U.S.:** Send \$9.95 (U.S.) to NMRA-Rail Pass Membership, 4121 Cromwell Road, Chattanooga, TN 37421-2119. **Canada:** Send \$9.95 (Cdn) to NMRA-Canadian Rail Pass Membership, 69 Schroder Cres., Guelph, ON N1E 7B4, Canada.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Check       Credit card

Credit Card # \_\_\_\_\_

Credit Card Exp \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

\*Rail Pass offer is for new members and those who have not been NMRA members for two years or more. Individuals can join at Rail Pass rates only once; membership renewal will be at the regular membership rate. Rail Pass members can attend conventions and participate in contests, but cannot vote or hold office and will not receive a New Member Pak.

- ◆ Have easy access to one of the world's largest railroad libraries...which includes over 100,000 prototype photos, 6,000 books, and over 50,000 modeling, prototype and historical society magazines
- ◆ Experience the fellowship and fun of getting modeling help and discussing the hobby with other members in your area
- ◆ Receive reduced rates on special insurance for your layout or collection
- ◆ Get admission to local model railroad meetings & events
- ◆ Receive 6 monthly issues of *Scale Rails* magazine
- ◆ Have access to standards info and data sheets
- ◆ Be a part of programs like "Modeling With The Masters," the Pike Registry, Estate Counseling, contests, clinics, the Achievement Program and more!

Also available in Canada!



Visit [www.nmra.org](http://www.nmra.org) to see what you're missing!

So much bang.  
So few bucks.

**Model Contest Report  
March  
Jim McQueeney**

Our model contests continue to have terrific response as shown by the amount and the quality of the exceptional models that are entered.

The model contest for our March 1st. meet was “ Flat Car Loads”.

There were 23 entries in this month’s contest of which some were multiple car entries. One of the entries was even flattened cars on it’s flat car. This is just another example of how the hobby is fun.

The model that received the most votes at the contest was the “Lumber Load” entered by John Mann. John received a gift certificate from a local hobby shop for his efforts. The second place was a three-way tie shared by Gary Loiselle, John Swanson and Clarence Welte.

**Model Contest Report  
April  
Jim McQueeney**

The model contest for the April 5th. meet was “Freight and Passenger Cars”.

There were 10 entries and many of them were also multiple car entries.

The entry that received the highest popular vote was submitted by Dave Hopper. Dave’s freight train entry also earned him a gift certificate to a local hobby shop. The second place votes went to Don Lewis

for his “Hospital Train, Circa 1943” entry.

Most of our entries have been modeled in HO Scale but we have also had N Scale, S Scale and O Scale models that were standard as well as narrow gauge.

Where are the Z and G Scale mod The May 3rd. model contest for our joint meet with the Wisconsin group is “Maintenance of Way” cars. I hope that our interest and enthusiasm for the model contest continues in May and throughout next year.

As soon as I have finalized the schedule for next season I will include it in your next Flimzie Contest report. So practice your modeling skills over the summer to get an even bigger turnout next year.

Lets see what you can do.

Thanks to all.

Jim

**Model Contest Report  
May  
Jim McQueeney**

The model contest for our May 3rd. division meet was “Maintenance of way cars”.

There were thirteen entries that ranged from single cars to complete trains.

The entry that received the most popular vote at the contest was the Great Western maintenance of way train built by Larry Whitsel. Larry received a gift certificate from a hobby shop for his work, congratulations Larry.

The model that received the second highest number of votes was a maintenance of way train built by Robby Kapala.

We have had a tremendous interest in this years model contests and I hope it will continue next year.

Enjoy your summer!

**2009 - 2010  
Clinics and Contests  
Jim McQueeney**

As we end this season, and plan for another season, of events for our Rock River Valley Division of the NMRA I would like to let everyone know that I am still the Clinic and Contest Chairman. Sorry, but unless someone wants to volunteer you will have to put up with me.

I have already had interest from potential clinicians for kitbashing model rolling stock, building control panels, model railroad operations, locomotive operations and prototype railroad history.

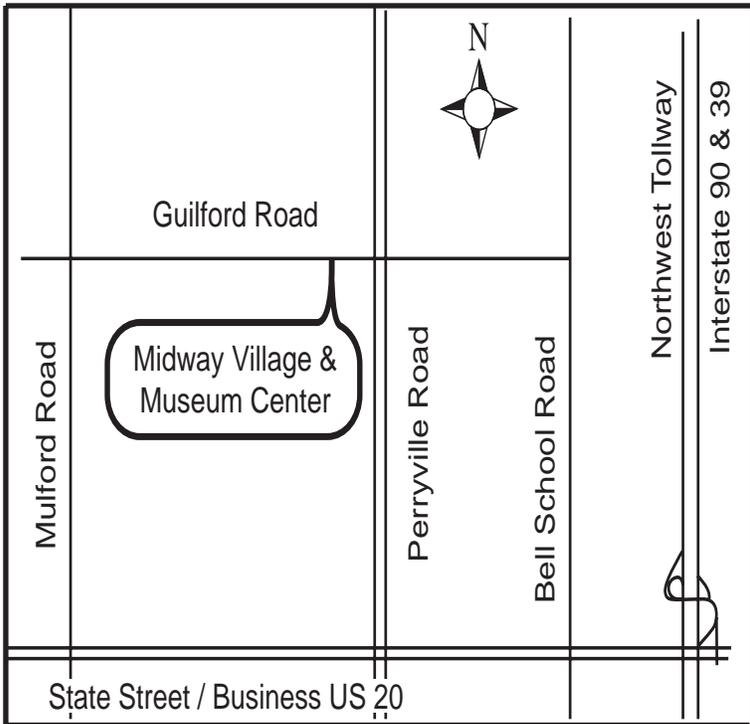
To start the season in September we are planning the Show and Tell, so give me a call (815)-399-3280, if you have a model or prototype presentation that we would enjoy at the September division meet.

I would also like to hear from anyone that would be interested in doing a clinic at our Division meets. It’s a great opportunity to show your talents and knowledge of the hobby to others.

The finished model contest schedule for the season will be in the next Flimzie.

**Editors Note:**

Clinics and Contests Scheduled for the months of June, July and August are not on the shelf. There are no such activities scheduled during the summer months. However the schedule for September will be the annual Show and Tell session



**Deadlines**

**Fall issue ..... Aug 10th**  
**Winter issue ..... Nov 10th**  
**Spring issue ..... Feb 10th**  
**Summer issue ..... May 10th**

**RRVD Meets - Location & Time**

Unless otherwise stated. RRVD Meets are held in the Lakeview Room at the Midway Village Museum Center. Midway Village is located at 6799 Guilford Road in Rockford, just west of Perryville Road. The doors open around 12:30 pm. Meet gets started at 1:00pm

**Editors Note:**

Since I am also wearing the hat of the mailing coordinator, I schedule the mailing of the monthly cards that announces the upcoming meets which includes clinics and topics of contests.

The *FLIMZIE* will carry as complete as possible, the schedule for these events. There will be no post cards mailed out for the months of July, August and the months following the publishing of the *FLIMZIE*.

Also note that the deadline for inputs to the *FLIMZIE* has been shifted to the 10th of the month in which the publication will be released. This is due to the fact that we may have some difficulties getting special reports from activities that take place on the first meet in various months. Postcards will normally be posted at least five days prior to these projected meets.



POSTMASTER: Forwarding Address Requested

Rockford, IL 61109-7544  
 2720 Sandhutton Ave. #11  
 Ron Anderson

***FLIMZIE***