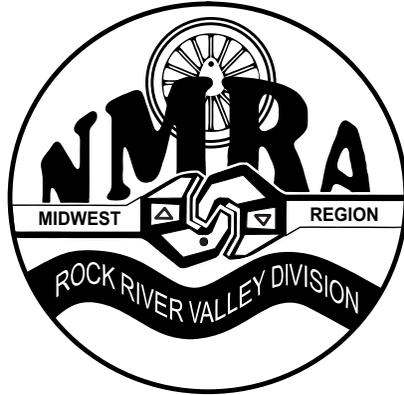


MODEL RAILROADERS

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

F L I M Z I E



Volume 42

Number 4

Summer 2010

19TH ANNUAL SHOW & SALE HAS COME AND GONE

Superintendent's Report *John Mann*

We had a GREAT Show & Sale. All tables that could have been sold were sold. (Thanks Don). There were around 1800 paid through the door. I estimated around 900 kids in addition.

The Young Engineers program went extremely well. (Thanks Ron). We had some great help Friday night from the kids at Jefferson. By my count, there were around 25 or so that helped. And, yes, we made money.

Ralph Haynes was there to give kids rides on his large scale railroad. Thanks, Ralph.

Thanks also to all the displays.

The biggest problem was the parking lot. Some individuals did not realize it is a bus parking lot (no cross lines). Therefore some people blocked others in. Next year we will either have Security or the Boy Scouts helping with this so it shouldn't happen again. I apologize to those who were blocked in and I thank you for your patience in waiting to get out.

I would like to thank all who helped out especially the Thursday morning breakfast bunch who helped with the items at the Doll House both in setting up and in tearing down.

We had elections in April with the same officers being reelected. (True meaning of "Railroaded!") Thanks to Tom, Les and Rich for a great year. Your efforts are greatly appreciated.

We were invited to Madison for the SCWD meet in May. We had 18 RRVD members in attendance. (About 1/3 of the total!) Several of our members won the popular vote model contests. They also had a photo contest. Is this something we want to revive? Our turn to host them next year.

We are planning a June Junket. Right now we are anticipating it will be to the Mississippi River. We will have postcards for this, so watch for them!

June Junket Going West People, Going West!

**June 6th, 10:00 am
departure 10:15 am.**

we will meet at Alpine Village Shopping Center. S. Alpine Rd & Harrison Ave. Parking lot on West side, just North of the former Amcore bank.

For anyone who is not familiar with Rockford, this is approx 1.2 miles north on S. Alpine Rd.

from the intersection of US 20 W. bypass, and Alpine Rd.

We will be going to Albany Il. for our 1st Garden R.R. Via Argo Fay Il. and the former CMSt.P&P Ashdale cut off, now removed but with remittance

Albany Il. is south of Fulton Il., and across the Mississippi River from Clinton Ia., 86 miles from Rockford

From Albany we will go north to Savana Il. following the CB&Q from Ebner Il. to the second Garden R.R, and if there is time the Savanna RR. Museum for anyone interested.

Please advise me if you are planning to be going.

Dick Caudle 1-815-874-7695

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Editors Notes

Once more I would like to explain the requirements to receive the *FLIMZIE*.

The Board of Directors have set down the present regulation that determine the distribution of this periodical.

1. All NMRA members listed with the NMRA.
2. Any person that signs in on our monthly meets.
3. Persons of Special interest to BOD and RRVD membership.

There seems to be a small disparity between the NMRA membership list and the RRVD attendance. This division, despite what it may appear to be, is NOT AN "HO" CLUB/ORGANIZATION/DIVISION! This division is a mixture of all gauges. We are a brotherhood of model railroaders. Matter of fact, our Superintendent is an "S" gauger, and I, myself am a "Z" gauger. The gauge of our choice should not interfere with our interest in modelling. We all have something to contribute to one another's hobby and interest. The organization that we have is here for you to chat and discuss ideas for all our interests. We can all benefit with our togetherness. Looking forward to seeing you in September.

The FLIMZIE

The *FLIMZIE* is the news letter of RRVD. It tells you about the important things that happen in RRVD and it gives you information about RRVD events. Articles and materials are welcome as contributions to the mutual enjoyment of the hobby and the membership.

The *FLIMZIE* assumes no responsibility for any materials contributed. The information appearing in the *FLIMZIE* does not necessarily reflect the attitudes of the NMRA, the MWR or RRVD.

Please send all address corrections or changes to the person designated to be the chairman of the Mail Roster.

Feel free to send all of your written materials, questions, corrections, gripes, comments and all such messages to the Editor.

TRAIN FEST 2010

For anyone interested in the upcoming train fest in Milwaukee, you're advised that the dates are November 13th and 14th.

Further information will be published in the Fall issue of the *FLIMZIE*

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

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| <input type="checkbox"/> Student Member (<i>Under 25 Years</i>) | \$24.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> No Scale Rails & NMRA Bulletin Membership | \$39.00 |
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*as of 12/25/06

Been there, but haven't done that

A couple of senior citizen were stopped by a local law enforcement officer.

When the officer asked, what was so important that they were driving so fast?

The response was, "We had to hurry to where we were going, before we forgot!"

**RRVD MODULE
UPDATE**
Tom McCabe

The RRVD once had a very impressive modular layout. But over the years interest in setting them up has declined and the modules have sat unused for many years. Some of them are in good condition while others need some major fixes.

At the last board meeting, it was decided to dispose of the remaining modules to any RRVD member who wanted them. These are being offered free of charge to whom ever wants them, but they are given away as is. The RRVD makes no kind of warranty to how

well they will function and will not pay for any repairs you make. You take them, they are yours.

Now if I haven't scared you off yet, here is a list of the items that are available. There are 4 corner modules, (2) 2 x 6 yard modules, (7) 2 x 4 straight modules, (1) 2 foot long bridge module, (1) 1 foot long bridge module, (1) 3 foot long bridge module, there are shelves that mount to the edge for holding power packs, a box full of clamps, 3 rolls of burlap skirting, and a box full of the joiner tracks. There are no power packs, rolling stock, or structures. If you are interested and would like to see them, contact me via email (tmccabe@quantumdi.com) or

leave a message at 815-505-6313 and we can set up a date and time to view them.

Once the modules are gone, we can begin a new project. The division will build a portable N scale layout about the size of the Rockford Route. An idea we had was to hold a design contest. Any member could submit a design for this layout and the winner would get something. The design parameters haven't been worked out yet, but the layout should have a local feel to. Once we have the requirements worked out, we'll let you know.

Mendota Open House

June 5 & 6

Saturday 10:00 to 5:00

Sunday 10:00 to 4:00

Depot baggage room has Burlington line layout. Railroad

Union Depot Railroad will be open

Morse code demonstration

Gandy dancer rides

"Little Obie" train rides

Guided tours

Directions: South on Interstate 39 to route 34 into town.

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YOUNG ENGINEERS
with host ~ Ron Johnson

The Young Engineers program which allows kids to build a model railroad car was, once again, very successful - for the third year. There was between 80 and 100 kids who went through our doors. Sometimes one or both parents helped their child to construct the model, but most of the time a RRVD member helped the child.

I would like to thank the following men who helped the kids this year: Keith Madsen, Carl Davis, Jay Kabitzki, Greg Hyland, Ken Mosney and Ray Dyreson. I have a hunch I missed a few men, so if this is so when you see me again, tell me I missed thank you and I will bend over backwards, beg you to help the program again next year and swear I won't forget to thank you!

Joe Whinnery and Dale Burge set up and took down the Rockford Route. Thanks to Dale, the trains ran around the track very well.

One story: I took note of one little boy, perhaps around eight years old, who seemed to really enjoy operating our trains on the Rockford Route. When he discovered the engines could

actually whistle and ding, he really was excited. He blew the whistle for every crossing and then some!

But I noticed he seemed to be running the trains a long time. He did allow other kids to take their turns, but then he was right up on the stool again running the trains when there was an opening. Soon there came a time when there were very few kids in the band room where the Young Engineer program was held, but the little boy was still there. It became obvious there was no adult with him. So I asked him where his mother or father was. He said his father was in the hall waiting for him. As the boy went back to playing with the trains, I checked in the hallway and saw no one who seemed like he would be the boy's father.

Rather than scooting him out of the room, I decided to just let him play with the trains. He was having so much fun, I just could bear to stop him. I thought maybe a parent would return for him. Then, we got busy again and I sort of lost track of the boy until I noticed he was finally gone.

Later, I saw him walking around the exhibit areas and watching the train layouts - alone.

Then, I lost track of him.

I never found out anything about his parents. Perhaps he was the son of a vendor or another person working at our show. (Maybe he is still wondering around Jefferson HS!)

I have two thoughts relating to this little guy: First, obviously we can not be baby sitters, though he was certainly no problem. Also, we can not be responsible for every child or teenager or even adults who come to our show. However, we will insist that a guardian accompany children from now on in the Young Engineer program.

But my other thought is this: This little boy was having a heck of good time playing with our trains and looking at train layouts among the displays of the vendors at our show. Perhaps one day he will build his own layout. Maybe he will attend our meets and learn about model railroading. Or maybe, he will never get to play with a train again (though I suspect he will be back next year!) But for just a little while, he was having the time of his life! Is there anything else that is more important for an eight year old?

**Wheaton
June 6th
9:30 - 3:00
\$7:00 (under 12 free)**

The Great Midwest Train Show is the world's largest monthly train show with an average of 180 exhibitors at each show featuring trains of all scales and gauges! Whether you're a serious collector or just looking to get started with the hobby, this is a show you don't want to miss!

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**Ron Anderson
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Outdoor “GARDEN” Layout
brought to you by ~ Bert Vespasian

The idea of having a layout in nature is attractive except for the ground work & bending & crawling to maintain. Most every scale track manufacturers have brass track suitable for the natural outdoors so everyone can enjoy their trains outside. I have a better way to build the layout outdoors on trestles above ground at a comfortable height, Easy to work on, fun to watch....somewhat grandchild proof....



Construction costs are cheap. I used construction grade 1x2 for stringers & cedar fence boards cut into scale width strips for tie supports. Sometimes I even stained to preserve, but all the wood has weathered well for 3 yrs....and strong too. Viewing is elevated, & natural background adds to the realism. More next time....

My G-gage layout fits into the concept well since it is built on a slope in our yard. A small part on the ground, the rest going above the ground, level with the original in ground section. the supports are 4x4 posts in the ground every 4- 5 ft. with cross pieces to support the actual trestle that track, siding, & rai-side structures will rest on. The trestles are modular; all made the same repetitive way to span from post to post....even around the curve. My step son's trig class skills help plan the correct straight lengths to accomadate the curves & sidings.



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Tues - Sat 10 - 6

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\$5.00 Includes Toy Show (under 12 free)

For more information go to:

www.galesburgrailroaddays.org

March & April 2010 Model Contest Report

Jim McQueeney

The model contest for our March division meet was "Stations and Depots".

There were five entries in the contest.

The entry that received the most popular vote at the contest was the Owen Junction Depot built by Ken Mosny. Ken received a gift certificate from a hobby shop for his work, congratulations Ken.

The model that received the second highest number of votes was built by Greg Hyland.

The model contest for our April division meet was "Passenger Cars".

There were eight entries in this months contest.

The entry that received the most popular vote at the contest was the Combine on the diorama built by Ken Mosny. Ken received a gift certificate from a hobby shop for his work, congratulations Ken.

The models that received the second highest number of votes was a tie. These models were built by Don Lewis and Mike McBride.

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

Enjoy your summer!

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CABOOSE
Doug Loy



Well the 2010 show and sale is now over. I hope everyone had a good time. Did you find any model railroad engine, rolling stock, etc that you just had to have! I noticed

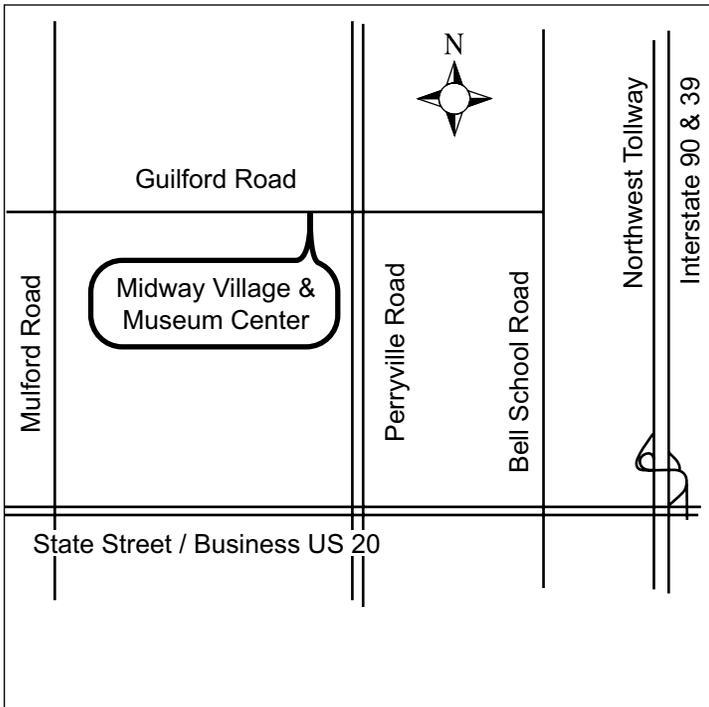
that the attendance was down, but talking to many venders said that the people that were there, were buying. This is good for we can plan for the 2011 show and sale.

Is your hobby on hold during the summer or do you continue visiting hobby shops, working on

your layout, and other facets of the hobby. I for one like to spend time down in my basement working on it, IT'S cool down there!

Have a good summer and come to the September meet on September 12.

HAVE A TERRIFIC SUMMER



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 about 12:30 pm and the Meet gets started about 1:00pm

Flimzie input Deadlines

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



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FLIMZIE

