



The FUSEE



Volume 56 Number 3

www.thousandlakesregion.org

Spring 2010

WELCOME TO
THE THOUSAND
LAKES REGION!

As is our tradition, this issue of *THE FUSEE* is being mailed to every NMRA member in the TLR. Why? Two reasons.

First, if you haven't heard about our 2010 convention in Winnipeg, this issue will give you a few highlights. Visit our website and download our Fall and Winter 2009 issues for even more details.

Second, we hope you look at this issue of *THE FUSEE* and say, "My, what a lovely newsletter. I think I'll subscribe!" Or something like that.

We'd love to have you climb aboard!

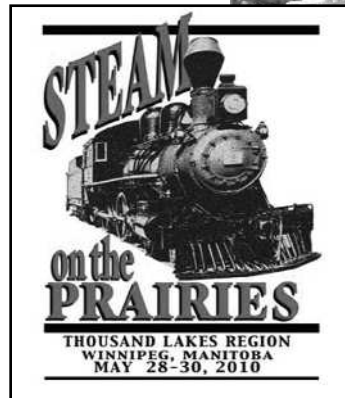
Layouts, layouts, layouts at "Steam on the Prairies"

By Ron Einarson
No. 1 Northern Division
Superintendent

The "Steam on the Prairies" TLR Convention in Winnipeg May 28 - 30, 2010, is approaching



Don Cooper's N-scale Cooper Valley Lines



quickly. If you have not registered now might be a good time to send in your application as the numbers are climbing and you definitely don't want to miss this event. In 1988 we had a very successful convention, 2000 The Millennium Express was great and 2005 Golden Rails had almost 300 modelers attend. Now the 2010 version is available to you to see Winnipeg's best in railroading both model and prototype.

As far as the modeling aspect there will be plenty of first class clinics available for you to glean new techniques and ideas you can take home and put to use on your models and layout. But by far the



Fred Headon's HO-scale Central Assiniboine Railway



Karl Purchase's HO Newfoundland Railway/CN Newfoundland Division

"Layouts" continued on page 5

Let's have fun!

Thank goodness – Spring is nearly upon us! Being hearty folks, we savor our opportunities for fun outdoors after the snow thaws. One upcoming event is our 2010 annual convention. Yes, I realize that throughout the year NMRA clubs and our six active Divisions provide a variety of get-togethers, clinics, raffles, auctions, open house layout tours, and learning/fellowship activities. Hurrah and a hearty thanks to those of you in leadership roles and your active members! But the one event of the year that truly represents our Regional perspective and fellowship is just around the corner – Winnipeg and “Steam on the Prairies.” If you haven’t already registered but plan to attend, dig out that passport (if you’re south of the border here in the States), make a lodging reservation, and send that registration form ASAP.

This year’s convention even promises plenty of railfun and railfanning, plus the usual modeling contests, clinics, prototype tours, and home layout visits.

Just as important is that annual chance to see old friends and renew acquaintances. As a Board member I can honestly say that in addition to giving back something (not much) in terms of my time and leadership, the friendships I’ve made truly are the most gratifying aspect of my association with the Thousand Lakes Region. Check the info in this

issue, and see the notice at the bottom of page 6.

On the opposite page you’ll find a brief description for several key TLR leadership positions that may be open this Spring. For certain, five-year Board members Jim Bernier (Contest Chair) and Jay Davis (Secretary) will rotate off the Board. We’ll be voting on their replacements, as well as a third slot, (Gerry Miller’s one-year appointment ends, too). Gerry is eligible to continue to serve on the Board, and I hope he will continue.

Thanks to Jim and Jay for their five years of service on the Board. Thanks, too, to the current members—Gerry Miller, Dave Hamilton (who’s also our Webmaster and Membership Chair), Paul Ullrich, and Gerry Leone (who’s also our editor). Also, I wish to acknowledge the faithful service John Hotvet and Tom Mauszycki have contributed as department chairs. Without all of your efforts, we wouldn’t be able to function as well and provide the services our membership deserves and has come to expect.

If you are contacted by the TLR nominating committee (me) in the next few weeks, please seriously consider what you could both contribute and gain by the experience of serving on our Thousand Lakes Region Board of Directors. I’ll be glad to go over the details with you. ✨

TUNNEL VISION

by Editor Gerry Leone, MMR

Two big pieces of news from National

One of the things I’ve done for the past 10 months as the NMRA’s Communications Director is to send out a monthly eblast to all Region Presidents and Division Superintendents, highlighting what’s going on at NMRA National. If your Division’s Super isn’t sharing that news with you, get on his case and demand it!

Two of the pieces of news I’ve sent out recently are really pretty exciting, and I’d like to share those with you here. One is the NMRA’s upcoming fundraiser, The Diamond Club. The second, is about an exhibit at the California State Railroad Museum (CSRM).

So what’s this Diamond Club? Currently, the Kalmbach Memorial Library (KLM) has about 100,000 photographs in its collection. They’re just sitting there, collecting dust. The NMRA would like to get those photos scanned and post thumbnails of them online, so that members (and paying researchers) can look through the collection and order prints. It’s an exciting venture that will really make our library a valuable resource for every member. The NMRA will be looking for donations from members to help fund this venture, and when you donate, you’re a member of the Diamond Club! (“Diamond” because it’s our 75th anniversary... remember?) See the February issue of *Scale Rails*, or visit the NMRA website at www.nmra.org/diamond club for details.

Now, about that CSRM agreement. This is big stuff. An agreement has

been signed between the NMRA and the CSRM which would allow for the building of a model railroading exhibit at the Museum. The exhibit would be entirely funded by corporate donors NOT by NMRA members or dues. And contrary to rumors, this is NOT the famed Howell Day Museum (although parts of the HDM could be used for the exhibit.)

The exhibit will be about 3,500 square feet and will trace the history of our hobby from its 19th century beginnings right up to today. It’ll be constructed by a professional exhibit firm.

What’s so fantastic about this opportunity is the fact that the CSRM is California’s #3 tourist attraction, and gets about 600,000 visitors every year. That’s over half-a-million people who will be exposed to the hobby of model railroading annually. We couldn’t buy publicity like that! And with the CSRM we’re getting it for free.

Again, no dues money will be used, and if the professional fund raisers the NMRA hires can’t come up with the needed funds, the NMRA won’t be on the hook for anything. If you have questions, email North America NMRA Director Charlie Getz, at alnadir@hq.nmra.org.

See you in Winnipeg! ✨

THANKS!

Contributors to this issue (in order of the square root of the number of letters in their name):

Les Breuer, MMR,, Terry Davis,
Paul Ullrich, Ron Einarson, Alan Saatkamp

**Next issue's deadline:
May 10, 2010**

We're still looking for an editor!

The Fall 2010 issue will be my last one as editor, and we need someone to take over. I'll be more than happy to train you (if you need it), give you some software to publish it (if you need it), and give you lots of encouragement (you'll need it). Please contact me if you're the slightest bit interested and let's talk! gerryleone@earthlink.net Thanks! -Gerry

Consider a position on the TLR Board. Seriously.

By Alan Saatkamp
President of the TLR

Here are thumbnail descriptions of the respective Board and department chair positions that will or may be vacant by convention time in May. Please note: new Board and department leaders aren't expected to jump in the deep end alone to sink or swim. Those of us who served previously in these various capacities are very willing to help the new officers transition into their roles by offering suggestions, tips, advice, and assistance.

President: Acts as the CEO for the TLR. Person is responsible for effective administration of Region activities and coordinating the various Board and department chair functions. Chairs both meetings – convention and mid-year (October), appoints the committee chairs, provides timely info to the leadership regarding national issues, invariably via email with an occasional phone call.

Time commitment: On the average, about three or four hours per month throughout the year, plus the time at meetings. The busiest time is convention – the president orders and obtains two plaques (the Bob Dew Award and the President's Award). He/she presents these at the convention dinner or annual meeting.

He/she serves as the Master of Ceremonies during convention dinner, though this is not required.

Vice President: Assumes the president's functions if he/she were absent or incapacitated. Provides an annual and semi-annual report at Board meetings. The key role of an effective VP is serving as the liaison with the Division superintendents. VP communicates (usually via email, but also phone) with them on issues and concerns, such as annual 100% NMRA member compliance. Our current VP, Gerry Miller, also surveyed the Divisions for convention ideas and will follow-up with them to ensure they have a selection for the \$200 Convention Attendance Grant to be awarded to one convention attendee from each of the Divisions.

Time commitment: Average of not more than

two to three hours a month, plus attending the two Board and one General Membership meetings.

Secretary: Records minutes for two Board meetings per year plus the general membership meeting at convention. Prepares and sends (via email) agendas for meetings. Maintains file of prior meetings. Has for the past several years solicited donations from manufacturers for the Chinese auction (out of the goodness of his heart—this isn't in the formal position description) by writing to them asking for modeling equipment.

Time commitment: Recording minutes at the three meetings a year. Prepares the minutes and makes distribution; takes about four hours per meeting.

"Board" continued on page 10

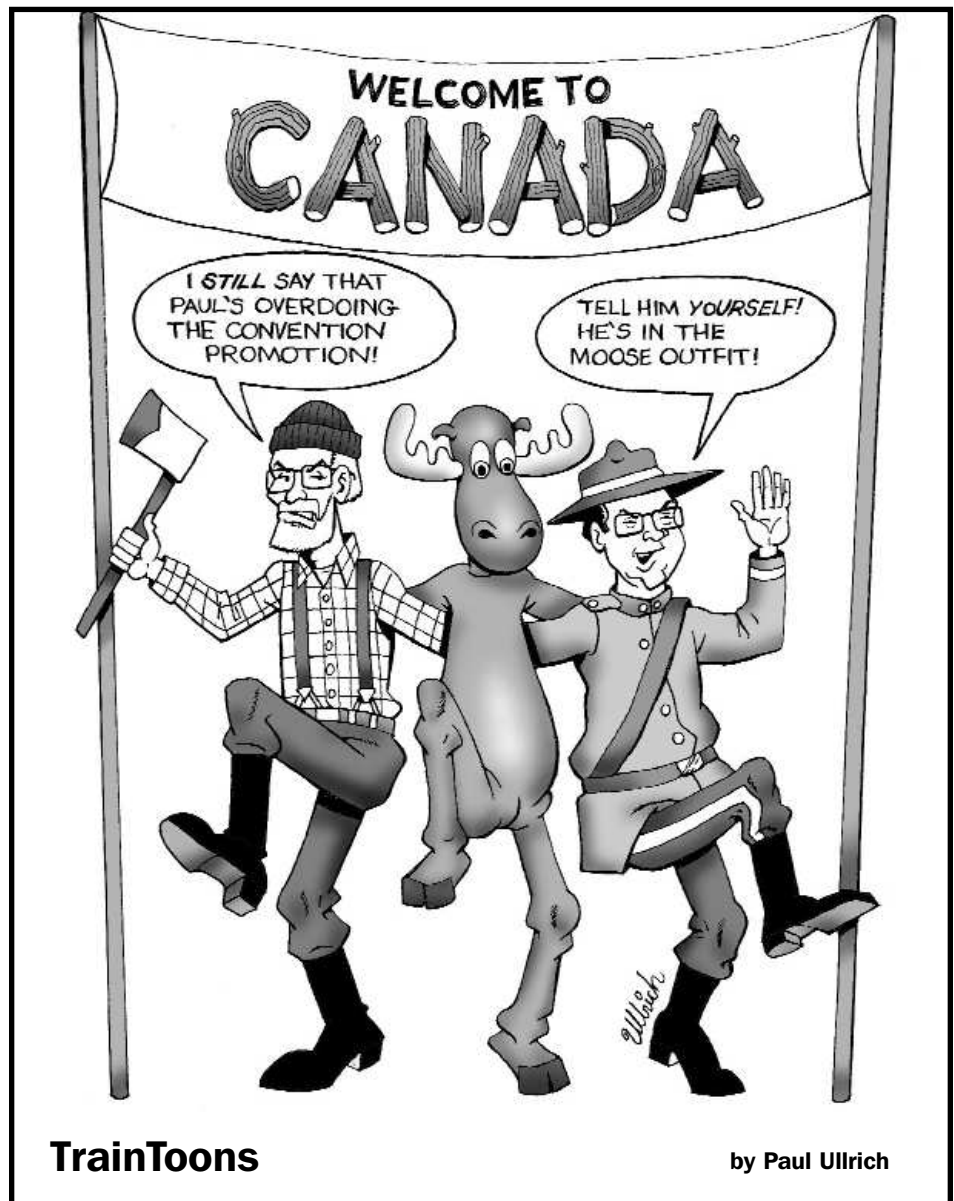
Magazine Back Issues Update

Due to space constraints I am selling many back issues of *Burlington Bulletin*, *Rock Island Digest*, *RMC*, *Mainline Modeler*, *MR*, *Classic Toy Trains*, and *Railfan & Railroad* at competitive prices. See our website for current list or e-mail to dchenry@qac.edu for quote with shipping.

We regret that we have had to discontinue some older items due to insufficient sales. See our website or write us for updated list. We still offer over 100 items for GN, NP, SP&S, CB&Q, BN, MILW, UP, PRR, NYC, SP, C&NW, IC, RI, B&O, C&E, L&N, KCS, N&W, ERIE, ATSF, MP, CN, CP, VIA & Amtrak. Use HO sides with TSP, Rivarossi, Con-Cor, ECW, Bachmann, Kato, Walthers, our HO Body Kits, or in N the ALM core kits or plastic dome car overlays. Send 2-oz. SASE for catalog and bulletin. Available through hobby shops or direct from us (\$4.50 for shipping, plus \$0.50 per ALM core kit if ordered.) Add 6.875% MN sales tax for MN orders. See our website for current information sheets, forms, bulletins, DVD, CV trucks, and magazines.

www.brasscarsides.com

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St. Peter, MN 56082-1435



Minnesota River Valley Div. is small but active



The layout MRVD members have been building in Montevideo features an EasyDCC system, a large hidden staging yard on the lower level and two helixes. The upper level features the extensive Montevideo yard as it looked in 1953 and will have a roundhouse. Division members work on it two Saturdays each month and have short division business meetings there once a month.

By Terry Davis
MRVD Superintendent

If you are an NMRA member living in the sideways triangular area of Minnesota bounded by about McLeod County on the east point to the west base at the South Dakota border, and from about Marshall on the south to Elbow Lake on the north, you likely live in the territory of the TLR's Minnesota River Valley Division.

While the MRVD sprawls across west-central Minnesota, the core of our small (about a dozen), active membership is in the cities of Willmar, Montevideo, Hutchinson, and Renville County.

Many of our members have impressive home layouts. If you attended the 2009 TLR convention in Hutchinson, you had the opportunity to tour the layouts of our officers – mine in Hutchinson, Asst. Superintendent John Givan's in

Montevideo, Treasurer Jon Bratt's in Bird Island and Secretary/Editor Brian Wordes' in rural Sacred Heart.

Our group typically gathers the second and fourth Saturdays of the months from September to May at the Milwaukee Road Heritage Center in Montevideo, where we are helping build a double-deck, double-helix HO layout that depicts the Milwaukee in Monte in 1953. John Givan leads the effort.

All NMRA/TLR members are invited to attend our free 2010 annual meeting, April 17. A special day is planned at the Olivia Pizza Ranch, 114 S. 9th St. (a half-block south of U.S. Hwy. 212). We'll have a short business meeting, including our division elections at about 11 a.m. A Dutch-treat pizza buffet follows. After lunch, we'll have clinics. Bring any type of model in any scale for a show-and-tell session. There will be door prizes.

Anyone interested in learning more about MRVD may call me, Terry Davis, at 320-587-7820, or e-mail ptdavis@hutchtel.net.

16th Hutchinson ModelRR Show

Sat. Sept. 25, 2010

10 a.m. - 4 p.m.
McLeod County Fairgrounds
780 Century Ave. S.W.
Hutchinson, MN.

Admission: \$4 adults, 12 & younger free

Operating model railroad on display, large flea market, modeling clinics and model contest.

www.lucelinerailroadclub.com

For more info (320) 587-7820 or

ptdavis@hutchtel.net



Layouts paid \$25 to attend!

Call David Zachmeyer:

(320) 587-8641

zachmeyer@mac.com

8 foot flea market tables only

\$20 each. Call Mark Brauh:

(320) 587-2279

mkbraun@hutchtel.net



One of the fringe benefits for Minnesota River Valley Division members working on the Milwaukee Road Heritage Center's HO scale layout is being able to look over the 1-to-1 scale equipment that group has acquired and parked just feet away from the model railroad building.


"Layouts" continued from page 1



Norm Leathers' HO-scale CPR and Pennsy

biggest attraction in the modeling end of things is the layout tours.

This year we think we have out-done the three previous conventions. We have over 16 layouts open for viewing and maybe a few more as modeler's here are scurrying to complete several more layouts... so it could be upwards of 20 to 22. They range from "N" to "HO" to "O" to a "1/8 scale 7.5" gauge" ride 'em train on acres of land.

First timers to Winnipeg will see all new layouts to them while veterans of our conventions will see four or five new layouts and the remainder have been upgraded and/or spruced up for the get together. 



Alex Campbell's HO-scale CPR South Western Manitoba



John Morris's HO-scale CPR Pointe du Bois Subdivision

32nd Annual Spud Valley Hobby Show

**Sunday,
October 17, 2010
9:00 am to 3:00 pm**

Admission: \$5
(under 12 free with paid adult)

**Ramada Plaza Suites
Crystal Ballroom
1635 42nd St. S.,
Fargo ND**

For information, call Don, 701-234-9351

- ★ 16th Annual **Plastics on the Prairie** model contest
- ★ Large & small operating model railroads
- ★ Vendors selling farm toys, plastic models, model railroad items, die cast vehicles, old toys, railroad collectibles and more
- ★ Door prizes -- No need to be present to win
- ★ Valley RC Flyers displaying their planes



John Longhurst's HO-scale CP Rail Manitoba & Minnesota Subdivision



Brian Schuff's HO-scale CPR in Eastern Ontario & Quebec

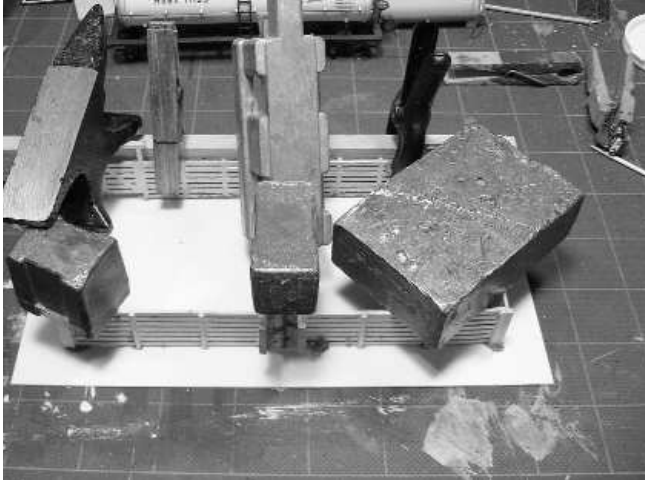
There's always time to weight

By Ron Einarson

Is there no such thing as not enough weights?

Well, I guess if you are adding weight to a piece of rolling stock or some motive power, there would be. But when holding down a warped structure there are no limits other than too many weights, causing it to be crushed.

My dilemma was how to straight out an old stockyard pen I had picked up several years ago. It was warped bottom-to-top and side-to-side. Plus it was not square. One afternoon when I was sitting at the workbench avoiding housework I started to clean up an area to work on. As I cleaned I had to move some weights... and the idea can to me: use lots of weights to correct the stock pen problem. I pulled out the pen, cut a piece of sheet styrene to fit, cut a thick piece of stripwood that was longer than the pen, pulled out



the box of clothes pins, and grabbed some weights and super glue.

I clamped the stripwood along the back with clothes pins to straighten the bend in the frame, making sure it was above the pen leg bottoms. Next I centered the pen on the sheet styrene, made the corners so I could put it back in the same position and went to town super gluing the bottom of the legs so I had enough to properly hold the pen in place after all was done. Once glued, I replaced the pen on the styrene and added the weights. As you can see by the photo, I used a significant number of weights. After an hour I removed the weights and voila, a straight stock pen I can now scenic and add to the layout (or in my case, to my shelf of dioramas). Quick and simple. I just need the inspiration.

Now where is the box full of livestock!?! 

The 9 Physical Laws of Model Railroading

From the Internet

First Law of Model Railroads: The track plan always expands to completely fill the available space.

Second Law of Model Railroads: The number of stalls and derailments is directly proportional to the number of people watching.

Third Law of Model Railroads: Inaccessible tracks will cause inaccessible derailments.

Fourth Law of Model Railroading: Physics don't scale.

Fifth Law of Model Railroads: Unlabelled wires become untraceable.

Sixth Law of Model Railroads: The cheap Bachmann engine will stay on the tracks while the expensive brass import makes the dive to the floor.

Seventh Law of Model Railroading: It's never as easy as the Kalmbach book makes it look.


Eighth Law of Model Railroading: The desire for modeling a prototype is inversely proportional to the decline of the prototype.

Ninth Law of Model Railroading: Pets and model trains don't mix. 

Why were the dates on the labels screwed up last time?

Answer: computer error.

It turns out there's a little-known difference between Excel for Windows and Excel for Macs. Excel for Windows calculates dates based on 1900 as a start date, whereas Excel for Macs calculates dates based on 1903. (We have no idea why.)

Dave Hamilton, our Membership Chair, sends the Excel file to our printer so that labels can be printed on THE FUSEE. When the file left Dave's computer, the dates were right. Our printer, however, uses a Mac and, of course, had no idea the dates were off and rolled the presses. Hopefully that glitch is cleared up with this issue! 

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The Card: a very handy tool



Note is available in this size; however, it is not .020" thick.

The Post-It Note will work for several of "the card" uses, however, not the most important use, which is to wick-up the excess CA glue applied to a joint. For a CA glue applicator, I use a sewing needle with half the eye removed and the needle point put in a wood handle. While this tool applies a very small amount of CA to a glue joint, at times that is still too much, so I want to remove some of it. I grab "the card" and place the edge of it on the joint and it wicks-up the excess. The thickness of the card allows it to absorb the excess quickly.

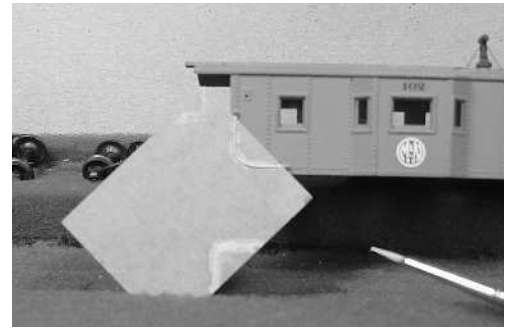
A nice looking CA glue joint is the result. Of course, sometimes "the card" works so well that it takes all the CA glue out of the glue joint. I would rather deal with applying the CA again than a dry "blob" looking CA glue joint on a model.

Another reason it is nice to have "the card" .020" thick is that it can be used as a spacing gauge. I remove molded on grab irons on my rolling stock and replace them with commercial metal grab irons

or metal grab irons I bend myself from Detail Associates .012" dia. brass wire. When the grab iron is installed on the car, the proper spacing of the grab iron from the car side can be determined with a gauge which can be as simple as "the card." A .020" thick piece of cardboard acts a very nice grab iron spacing gauge.

Another major use of "the card" is as a place to put the glue squeezed out of a container such as a tube. It could be white glue, contact cement, or plastic tube cement. I put the plastic tube cement such as Testors on "the card" and use a toothpick to apply the cement. Other material that I place on "the card" before applying to a model is body putty such as Testors or Squardon Green.

Once you install wire grab irons



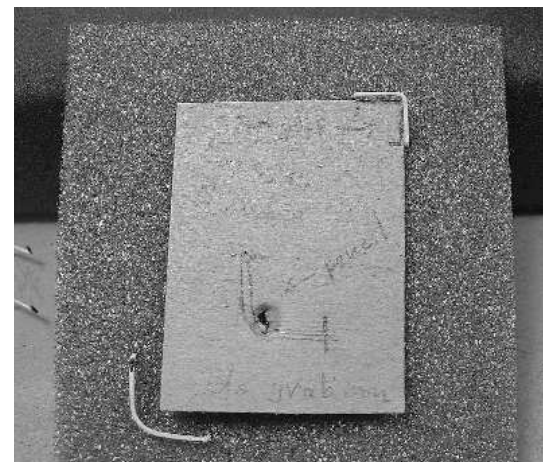
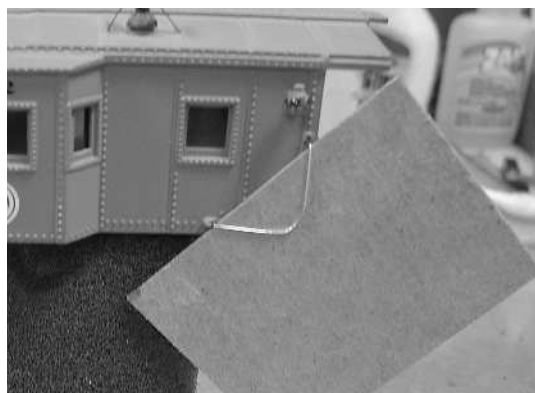
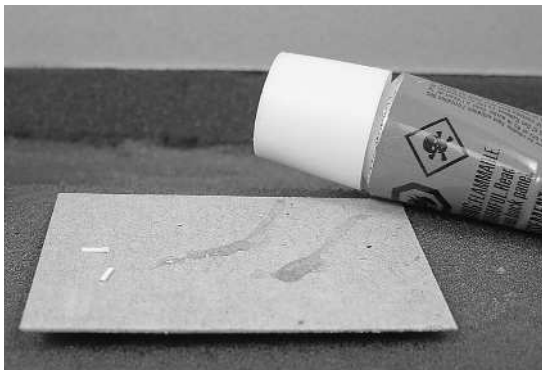
they require painting. You may want a painting mask. Of course, that's another use of "the card." When painting the grab irons "the card" can be used as a quick painting mask. Slide a corner of "the card" under the grab iron and apply the paint. I think it beats getting out the masking tape.

One final use of "the card" is for making a jigs. It could be a spacing jig. It could be a grab iron bending jig. I was replacing over-size caboose grab irons on an old caboose model with better scale size grab irons. To bend the grab irons I needed a jig. I first traced the old grab iron, which was a quarter-circle, on "the card." At the grab ends I made a hole the size of the new grab iron and in the middle of the round section I made a hole for a lead pencil. I bent a right angle on the grab iron wire, placed it in one of the end grab iron holes, bent the wire around the pencil forming the round grab, made a right angle bend at the other end of the grab per the jig and cut it off. I bent the caboose grab irons using the simple tracing on "the card" which preformed as a jig.

Well you now know what "the card" is and how it can be used to aid you your modeling. I ask you to give it a try. If you do, soon I really believe you will be telling your modeling friends about "the card." ✨

By Lester "Les" J. Breuer, MMR

I would guess "the card" is not a tool you have seen in a tool catalog or even heard about. So first let me tell you what it is. It's a piece of cardboard 2" x 1 1/2" x .020" thick, about half the size of most business cards. Why this size? Well I began using a business card for "the card" and later found I only needed a half a business card for each use so settled on this size. Besides, when cutting up cardboard from the back of a pad of paper into this size I found I could store the cards in the business card box that was already in the tool drawer. As for the thickness, I found that the cardboard back of a majority of paper pads is around .020" thick. The thickness is important and you will find out why if you read on. I am aware a Post-It



Winnipeg Fever gets hotter and hotter

By Paul Ullrich
Convention Director

I am pleased to announce that as of this writing we have a total of 68 registrations. We are well past the "early early bird" deadline of December 18, and I assumed that with the slightly higher price of the "early bird" registration taking effect, registrations would slow down to a trickle. But they're still coming in!

We've had a large number of registrations from Iowa, which was very impressive considering the distance they'll have to travel. Registrations have also come in from outside the Region. We've had them come in from Saskatchewan, Alberta, and one from as far away as Coquitlam, a suburb of Vancouver.

Word is spreading about our convention all across North America. The NMRA and the

TLR websites certainly deserve credit for this, but special credit must be given to long time TLR member Nick Andrusiak. Nick has inserted a registration form in every copy of the last issue of CN LINES (all 1500 of them!). To ensure that we'll get even more registrants, he has also arranged for the CN Lines

Gerry Leone, there was Stafford Swain. In the 70's and the 80's, his layout appeared in virtually every model railroad publication. His layout was one of the highlights of the 1983 National convention, as well as the Regionals in 1988, 2000, and the Golden Rails convention in 2005. Sadly, he'll be moving soon, and tearing down his layout. This is your last chance to see the work of one of the NMRA's greatest craftsmen!

The Canadian Pacific Heritage Museum in Portage La Prairie is going all out for us. They'll be holding their annual Train Days celebration in conjunction with our railfan excursion to Portage. They'll be throwing a barbecue along with many other attractions. Anyone who attended Golden Rails in 2005 will remember fondly what a blast we had in Portage

at Train Days, so don't miss out on the fun!

We'll also be putting on a Chinese auction at the banquet. Buying stuff for the hobbyists is a fun thing to do, but buying the non-rail items is somewhat more challenging. I asked my wife Marg what I should buy. She said, "You better buy that stuff NOW because all the stores have their Christmas gift items on sale, and they'll be gone soon!"

Marg, who was simultaneously amused and disturbed at the thought (and the image) of me set loose in the cosmetics department of the store, decided to accompany me. We purchased an assortment of very nice non-rail gifts, mostly at half price! Kudos and praise for Marg for tipping me off on these great deals (and for shopping with me!) 🌟

For more information about the "Steam On The Prairies" convention, customs and border tips, and lodging, see the Winter 2009/2010 FUSEE, which can be downloaded from the "back issues" link on THE FUSEE page at www.thousandlakesregion.org

Watch our video! Visit www.thousandlakesregion.org and click on the link!



SIG to hold it's annual convention the same week as the TLR convention. Special thanks also goes out to Jeff Pinckbeck of the CP Lines SIG, who will also be inserting our registration form in every copy of the next issue of CP LINES.

Winnipeg Model Railroad Club member John Longhurst had an article published in the December issue of *Railroad Model Craftsman*. Its editor, Bill Schaumberg, will be our special guest at the convention.

John wrote a sidebar to his article promoting the convention. Thanks to John's article, we've received an inquiry about the convention from an NMRA member in Georgia!

We have eight great clinics booked, plus over 20 layout hops! Stafford Swain will be showcasing his layout for the very last time. Before there was

www.granitecitytrainshow.com

All Aboard!

ST CLOUD, MINNESOTA

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SATURDAY, APRIL 24, 2010

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Steam on the Prairies Registration
May 28th to 30th 2010, Winnipeg, Manitoba Canada
TLR No. 1 Northern Division

Events	Cost	Total
Basic Registration (NMRA Member) (Includes Steam Excursion, Banquet, Friday Night Barbecue, all clinics and Layout Hops)	December 19 th to May 1st \$90.00	
Non NMRA Member Surcharge (Includes all events, adds six month NMRA registration)	December 19 th to May 1st \$10.00	
Late Registration Registration postmarked after May 2 nd add an additional \$10.00	\$10.00	
Extra Fare Prototype Excursion Friday May 28th (10:00 A.M.) Prototype Railfan Excursion to Portage la Prairie. Includes CP/CN mainline rail viewing and the Canadian Pacific Railway Park & Heritage Museum. Entry fee included. Lunch provided. Limit: First 40 registered	\$40.00	
Non Rail Tour of Historic Lower Fort Garry Friday May 28th (10:00 A.M.) Entry fee included. Lunch provided. Limit: First 40 registered	\$40.00	
Friday Night Barbeque May 28th (6:00 P.M.) Assiniboine Valley Railway	included	
Morning Clinics Saturday May 29th Clinics at the Mennonite University will be run at 9:00, 10:00, and 11:00 A.M. Lunch at the college on your own at noon	included	
Steam Excursion/Banquet on the Prairie Dog Central Saturday May 29th (2:00 P.M.) Round trip steam excursion with shop tour, 2 rural train stops, and model railroad flea market/swap at the Prairie Dog Central freight shed (bring items to sell). Banquet on return trip at Hitch'n Post rural retreat, while steam train waits.	included	
Annual General Meeting, & Layout Tours Sunday May 30th Annual General Meeting at Mennonite University 9:00 A.M. Lunch on your own Self guided Layout Tours start at 1:00 P.M.	included	
	Total Cost	

Option to Layout Tours: (Select one of the above sessions only):

Operating sessions on the Outdoor Assiniboine Valley Railway

Limited to the first	15 Registrants	(early afternoon)	1:00 P.M. to 3:30 P.M.	Yes	_____
	15 Registrants	(late afternoon)	3:30 P.M. to 6:00 P.M.	Yes	_____

Registration Payment to:

Sid Greenstone, Registrar
 Steam on the Prairies 2010
 TLR Regional Convention
 210-1600 Kenaston, Blvd. Suite 243
 Winnipeg, Manitoba Canada R3P 0Y4
 Registration information: email: reg.tlr.2010@gmail.com

Cheque or Money Order payable to:

No. 1 Northern Division of the TLR of the NMRA
 Canadian or U.S. Dollars
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Personal Information

Name _____ NMRA # _____ Expiration Date: _____

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Conference Location: Canadian Mennonite University 500 Shaftesbury Blvd. Winnipeg, MB R3P 2N2
Phone: 204-487-3300 ext. 314 **Toll Free:** 877-231-4570 **Fax:** 204-837-9043 www.cmu.ca
 Contact the CMU for Low Rate Accommodations (All major credit cards accepted) rental@cmu.ca
Contact: Zachary Peters, Hosting Coordinator zpeters@cmu.ca

“Board” continued from page 3

Contest Director: Directs Regional contest in cooperation with convention chair. Maintains adequate supplies of forms and certifies them to Regional contest chairs as appropriate following convention. Maintains supplies of trophies and/or plaques and has them made up and mailed following convention (about a day’s worth of time). Provides a written report to the Board annually. Maintains TLR contest rules which are in compliance with NMRA practices and standards. These duties include selecting judges for modeling and photo contests. **Current Contest Director Jim Bernier indicates a willingness to help with the transition by assisting the new contest director at the 2011 Dubuque convention. The interested-but-not-yet-elected candidate is welcome to shadow Jim during the Winnipeg contest this May.**

Time commitment: Most of the day Saturday at convention judging and taking photos of the winning entries (this can be coordinated/shared with PR Director or FUSEE editor). May require a Saturday during the year attending and judging at a Division level meet, though this only occurs sporadically.

There’s a contest judges mail group nationwide that communicates regularly—email

throughout the year averages one evening of reading per month.

Convention Director: Determines feasible sites for future conventions. Communicates with all active Convention Chairs to ensure proper planning and execution of conventions. Maintains a list of clinicians willing to present at the annual convention. Reports to the Board on convention business, including financial reports. Ensures fair rotation of conventions throughout the Region. Develops a brochure or page describing the convention along with a registration form (may use existing template) for inclusion in THE FUSEE and posting on our website. Ensures adequate lodging by blocking rooms and attempts to negotiate special room rates (in writing). Ensures that model train manufacturers are contacted to obtain items for Chinese auction (this can be an activity of the local committee working on the convention—Conv. Dir. makes sure it gets done). The *TLR Handbook* further contains a wealth of detail on how to plan a convention and is available to board members on our mail group.

Time commitment: In the past few years our Convention Director has also been active at the local Division level, so s/he spends a few hours weekly working with local committee members to put it together.

At convention, they are busy coordinating last minute details, registration table set-up, etc.

FUSEE Editor: Publishes quarterly (Spring, Summer, Fall, Winter) issues of THE FUSEE. Responsible for soliciting, compiling and editing material submitted by the Region membership and writing a quarterly column. Responsible for making sure issue is mailed in a timely manner. **The incumbent, Gerry Leone, is willing to assist the new editor in publishing the Winter 2010/2011 issue and welcomes that person’s involvement in putting together the Fall 2010 issue. Gerry will also give the next editor publishing software and help with it.**

Time commitment: About 20 hours per issue.

There they are – the likely positions that the Thousand Lakes Region may need to fill this year so we can maintain our high level of service to you, the members. Please consider the call to serve (or make one to me at 605-214-1469). Whether you’re interested in the NMRA Achievement Program and Official’s Certificate (three years of active service on the Board, or two with one as president meets the requirement) or not, it’s a guaranteed way to make new friends and add to enjoying “the World’s Greatest Hobby.” 🚂



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THE CROSSROADS OF EASTERN IOWA

**EID
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NMRA**

June
10-13

- two days of informative clinics
- model judging, contest, and display
- 100-table train show
- prototype and industrial tours
- 15 home, club, & garden layout tours
- excursion on the Iowa Interstate RR
- banquet speaker: MR’s Cody Grivno
- rail and non-rail sightseeing guides
- state of the art convention facility

CEDAR RAPIDS 2010

Presented by the Eastern Iowa Division
Join us in celebrating the 60th anniversary of the Mid-Continent Region!

The Thousand Lakes Region of the NMRA

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THE FUSEE is a quarterly publication of the Thousand Lakes Region of the National Model Railroad Association and is mailed to all subscribers. A subscription runs for one year and costs \$10.00. Mail subscriptions to the Treasurer.

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No jokes. No quips.
No motor car. Not a single luxury.
Like Robinson Crusoe it's primitive as can be.

Changes of address should be sent to the Treasurer.

FUSEE Advertising

Commercial advertising from hobby shops, manufacturers, and other businesses with a model railroading interest is accepted. Pike ads are for individual layouts, model railroad clubs, or other non-commercial groups. All ads can be run in a single issue at the rate of 35% of the annual rate.

Ad size (HxW)	Annual Comm. rate	One time Comm. rate	Annual Pike ad rate
Full pg 9 3/8" x 7 1/8"	\$145.00	\$50.75	\$90.00
1/2 pg 4 3/4" x 7 1/8"	90.00	31.50	45.00
1/4 pg 4 3/4" x 3 1/2"	45.00	15.75	25.00
1/6 pg 4 3/4" x 2 1/4"	35.00	12.25	18.50
1/8 pg 2 3/8" x 2 1/4"	25.00	8.75	15.00
1/8 pg 3 3/4" x 2 1/4"	25.00	8.75	15.00
1/12 pg 2 3/8" x 2 1/4"	18.50	6.48	10.00
1/16 pg 1 1/8" x 3 1/2"	15.00	5.25	7.50

All advertising should be mailed to THE FUSEE editor as camera-ready artwork or electronic files (jpeg, tiff, gif, or EPS with outlined fonts). Payment must be enclosed and should be in U.S. funds, international money order, or by check drawn on U.S. Banks. Questions? Contact the Editor!

Subscribe to THE FUSEE!

If you're an NMRA member residing within the boundaries of the Thousand Lakes Region, you're automatically a TLR member. So why not keep up with what's happening in the Region? Use this form to subscribe to THE FUSEE. If your subscription has lapsed, use this form to renew.

I'm enclosing payment for: _____ New subscription
 _____ \$10 for one year _____ Subscription renewal
 _____ \$20 for two years _____ Returning member

Name: _____ Scale(s): _____

Address: _____

City: _____ NMRA #: _____

State/Province: _____ Zip/Postal Code: _____

Phone: (_____) _____

Email: _____@_____

**Mail to: Dave Hamilton, Treasurer
18015 33rd Place N., Plymouth, MN 55447**



Spring 2010

THE FUSEE

18015 33rd Place N.
Plymouth, MN 55447

INSIDE:

**Layouts, layouts
layouts!**

**The Convention
Registration Form**

The Card: a handy tool

Train shows & events in and near the Region

Compiled by Gerry Leone, Jim Bernier, and Terry Davis

Saturday, 4/10/10, Greater Upper Midwest Train Show & Sale, 9 AM - 2 PM, Century College West Campus, 3300 Century Ave. N., White Bear Lake, MN (Two blocks north of I-694 and Hwy 210). Admission: \$5, Children 12 and under free. Toy trains -- all scales, antique toys, railroad memorabilia. For more information contact Tom Jefferson, R&R Productions, 182 Cedar St., White Bear Lake, MN 55110.

Saturday, 4/10/10, Prairie Lakes Division Spring Meet and Show, 8:30 AM - 3 PM, VFW Post, 3205 Main Street (on Hwy 18), Emmetsburg, IA. Admission: \$3, under 12 free with paid adult. Raffles, door prizes, model railroad clinics, model contests and more. Business meeting follows at about 2:30pm. For more info call Ron at 712-225-4780 or ron31545@yahoo.com

Saturday, 4/17/10, Woodbury Flea Market, 10 AM - 3 PM, Woodbury Senior High School, 2665 Woodlane Drive, Woodbury, MN. Admission: \$5, under 12 free. For more info: 952-200-9729 or ic_geeps@yahoo.com

Saturday, 5/01/10, 15th Annual Alexandria Model Railroad Show, 10 AM - 4 PM, Runestone Community Center (West Ice Area), County Road 22 and 82 (North end of Alexandria), Alexandria, MN. For more information: www.train-web.org/amra/index.html

Friday - Sunday, 5/28-30/10, "Steam on the Prairies," the annual TLR convention 32nd Annual Spud Valley Hobby Show, Canadian Mennonite University (CMU) in Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada. See Registration form inside this issue for pricing information. Steam excursion, banquet, prototype site visit, bar-

beque, model contest, clinics and layout tours, and more. For more information, see articles in this issue or contact Paul Ullrich, Convention Director, at the addresses listed on page 11.

Sunday - Saturday, 7/11-18/10, The 75th Anniversary Convention of the National Model Railroad Association, Milwaukee, WI. Visit <http://www.nmra75.org/> for all the details.

Sunday, 9/25/10, 16th Annual Hutchinson Model RR Show, 10 AM - 4 PM, McLeod County Fairgrounds, 780 Century Ave. S.W., Hutchinson, MN. Admission: \$4, 12 and younger free. Operating model railroads, large flea market, modeling clinics, model contest. For more info: 320-587-7820 or ptdavis@hutchtel.net.

Sunday, 10/17/10, 32nd Annual Spud Valley Hobby Show, 9 AM - 3 PM, Ramada Plaza Suites, Crystal Ballroom, 1635 42nd St. S., Fargo ND Admission: \$5, under 12 free with paid adult. "Plastics on the Prairie" model contest, large and small operating model railroads, vendors, door prizes. For more information, call Don at 701-234-9351.

**Want your event listed here?
If you don't tell us about it,
we won't know about it!**

**Email Jim Bernier at
jrbernier@hotmail.com**

If you're in the Thousand Lakes Region and would like your train show, swap meet, Division meeting, club meeting or other railroad/model railroad-related event listed in our calendar, please send it to Jim Bernier at jrbernier@hotmail.com by the deadline listed inside.