



The FUSEE



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www.thousandlakesregion.org

Spring 2005

No matter what, when, or where you model, the 2005 TLR convention has something for you

By Terry Davis
TLR Public Relations Chair and
member of the Mason City committee

I've heard some recent skeptical comments about having the convention in Mason City, Iowa, with the C&NWS. We understand TLR members model a full spectrum of railroads. Not everyone is interested in the C&NW or its merged Minneapolis & St. Louis or Chicago Great Western lines, all once in Mason City. But the Milwaukee Road and Rock Island were also there, as is the Iowa Traction, UP and IC&E today. Having the convention in Mason City covers a lot of railroads.

If you think about it, every TLR convention focuses on the railroads that served that area. At Grand Forks last year we focused on the BNSF and its predecessors. Thunder Bay in 2003 had CP and CN as the hot topics.

Someone also told me he wouldn't get anything out of Mason City because today is 2005 and he model 1970. Well, that problem would exist wherever we go. We try to have a wide range of activities to interest everyone. One clinic will be Doug Harding's great Decker Meat Packing presentation. He'll expand on his two-part article printed last fall in *Railroad Model Craftsman*.

We'll also tour the Holcim cement plant that has been in operation for decades, as well as a new ethanol plant, the UP yards, a Rock Island roundhouse in nearby Manley and IC&E's former Milwaukee yard and depot, as well as riding the trolley.

This convention will have everything the TLR usually has - modeling clinics, prototype slide shows, history presentations, tours, NMRA-judged contests, a Friday night social, banquet, annual business meeting and much more with the C&NWS, such as a flea market and memorabilia auction. We might even get to ride UP's Operation Lifesaver train!

Another comment has been about the \$115 price. On a per-day basis, this 3 1/2-day convention really isn't much more than our usual 2-day TLR meets. Included in that price is a Friday night social/meal, Saturday's banquet and Sunday morning's breakfast buffet.

I hope a lot of Thousand Lakes Region members are fired up about the 2005 joint convention with the Chicago & North Western Historical Society coming up May 19-22. Registration and a model judging form, plus a complete listing of motels and activities can be found on pages 5 through 8 in this issue of THE FUSEE.

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View from the cab *by TLR President Bruce Selb*

Since my space is limited because of the other great articles in this issue, thanks to our editor, I'll be short. This year's Regional convention in Mason City, Iowa, is special and described in detail elsewhere in this issue. I hope to see a membership turnout to rival the C&NW membership.

National has decided to rebate \$2.00 from each member's NMRA dues back to the Region. This makes each new national member a Regional member. It will be the Region's responsibility to involve the new member in the activities of the Region and Divisions.

The Region is soliciting a Division or club to sponsor the 2007 TLR convention. If interested please contact Gordy Miller, the TLR convention chairman, or any TLR officer.

The TLR continues to look for a chairman of Member's Aid. If interested please contact me. In addition, TLR is looking for individuals for Regional offices. If interested in a Regional office, please contact the Nominating Committee Chairman, Gordy Miller.

A number of changes will be made to the TLR by-laws at the May Convention in Mason City. The changes will be mailed by April 15, 2005 to each member as required by the by-laws. Voting on the by-laws will take place at the membership meeting Sunday morning, May 23, 2005.

Finally, congratulations to our editor, Gerry Leone, on becoming the newest TLR Regional, and the 346th Master Model Railroader in the NMRA.

See you at the Convention in May!

The Work Train *by Editor Gerry Leone, MMR*

Going to Mason City this May? I know I'll be there. If you've never gone to a Regional Convention, this just may be the time to pack the SUV and head to Iowa. This convention promises to be one for the history books.

In this "Convention Issue" you'll find everything you need to get you to River City except a road map. Because your editor's always thinking about you, I set up this issue of THE FUSEE so that all the convention info can be conveniently pulled out of the center for easy reference.

If you're going, you're hopefully bringing along a model or two. Model contests have traditionally been one of the highlights of TLR Conventions and this year will be no exception. To make it easier for you to have your paperwork done in advance, Tom Mauszycki, the TLR's Contest Director, asked that I include a Judges' Score Sheet in this issue; you'll find it on page 8. (You could also download the forms at the NMRA's website, www.nmra.org.) Make a photocopy of this form for each model you plan to enter *before* you send in your registration form. (Why? Because it's on the back of the registration form!) With the Judges' Score Sheet in-hand you can take some time and give it some extra thought before you fill it out. The more time you take, the more details you include, the more you can tell the judges about how you created, built, painted, and finished your model, the better your score will be — I know this from experience on *both* sides of that form. The last thing you want to do is spend weeks building a model, only to short-change yourself and your work by hastily filling out the form at the contest entry door.

Maybe you've already noticed this issue has another story about the No. 1 Northern Division. Yes, we did one last issue, but those folks up there are *busy* and Super Ron Einarson was kind enough to send along an update. Thanks again, Ron.

Finally, one of the "weird" things that occasionally happens to an editor is having to include a news story about himself in his own newsletter. Obviously, that's what's happened this time around. And while, on one hand I hesitated to do it, on the other, I reasoned that if the news was about *someone else* I wouldn't have thought twice about running it. So, it runs...but not without a little admitted awkwardness on my part!

KIT REVIEW

Sylvan HO-scale model trucks

By John Hotvet, MMR

Recently a Canadian company, Sylvan Scale Models, introduced a line of HO-scale vehicles consisting of several automobiles and trucks from the 1930s through the 1960s. Because my railroad is set in the mid-1950s I thought I would sample their product line and bought several (okay, 15) truck kits to dress up some scenes on my layout.

So far I've assembled a 1950-53 GMC dump truck, a 1940-58 White super power tank body, and a 1948-53 Chevrolet cab-over-engine stake body truck, and they all went together in a short time. In fact, I spent more time spray painting and touching-up fine details with a brush than I spent assembling the kit components.

Each kit is composed of several cast resin detail parts (frame, drive shaft, axles, wheel hubs, cab shell, cab floor, truck body, and driver) that required minimal clean-up with a file. The kit also includes a pre-formed clear plastic window insert, six rubber tires, and a small etched metal set of truck mirrors in three different styles.

I attached the axles and the drive shaft to the truck frame as one sub-assembly. The second sub-assembly was the truck interior, which included the floor and seat, steering wheel and shifter, and driver. I also drilled out the cab shell for the

"Sylvan Trucks" continued on page 4

THANKS!

Contributors to this issue:

Jim Bernier

Terry Davis

Ron Einarson

Peter Hall

John Hotvet, MMR

Tom Mauszycki, DDS

Lloyd Stresman

Paul Ullrich

Pat Walker

Next issue's deadline:

May 10, 2005

Achievement Program Update

By John R. Hotvet, MMR

AP activity is still moving rapidly in the last three months. We processed four AP certificates and two Golden Spikes, including one Master Model Railroader. With four months to go in the annual tabulation the TLR has already doubled the number of certificates awarded last year. Quite a tribute to the modelers actively participating in the AP program in this Region.

Gerry Leone of Excelsior, MN, received

two certificates – Association Volunteer and the biggie – Master Model Railroader #346, Dr. Thomas Mauszycki of Winona, MN received the Master Builder Cars certificate, and Ron Einarson of Winnipeg, MB received the Association Volunteer certificate.

The two Golden Spike recipients are Robert Sterner of Saint Paul, MN and Robert Sorensen of Bloomington, MN.

Congratulations to everyone for their accomplishments.

FUSEE editor Gerry Leone receives MMR #346

[As it will appear in The NMRA Bulletin]

By Gerry Leone, MMR

Strange as it sounds, I didn't realize that "model railroading" was something people did as a hobby until I was almost 30.

Until then I'd guessed that a train layout was something you'd spend a few hours working on before you moved on to something else – just like building a model airplane or car. It wasn't until I happened upon a book by Leslie T. White, *Scale Model Railroading*, that I came to fully understand what a model railroad was. Or could be.

Like most of us, I grew up with a Lionel train set circling the Christmas tree at Mach 1. My dad, who wasn't big on planning, had laid some tracks on a board in the basement but never spent much time with it. So neither did I. When I turned 6 he walked into a hobby shop with a huge pile of Lionel equipment and walked out with a single Tyco starter set. That new set, like the old one, languished, even after he bought a retiring model railroader's entire layout – track, cars, books, and all – in the hope that having "more stuff" would somehow create "more enthusiasm." It didn't. Everything was packed away until one Christmas far into the future when Dad's post-college son decided to set up a train around the tree again... and discovered Mr. White's book amidst the boxes. "Oh... wow...!"

The old Tyco set somehow grew into a 15'x15' layout in my freezing South Minneapolis attic. And for four years



everything was on the right track... until I decided to relive my youth by starting a rock band. What trains? What layout?

Eighteen years, three bands, two houses, and 10db of hearing later I found myself free of the desire to play in smoky bars and full of the desire to play with trains in the basement of my newly built house. On April 24, 2000, the Bona Vista Railroad was reborn.

Two things struck me when I turned 50. First, time flies. Second, the best time to start working on an MMR was yesterday. So I focused.

Time, indeed, flew, and so did I. Three years later I achieved what I consider to be one of my proudest lifetime accomplishments: MMR #346.

In those intervening years I received certificates for Model Railroad Author, Model Railroad Engineer – Civil, Model Railroad Engineer – Electrical, Master Builder Scenery, Master Builder Structures, Master Builder Cars, and Association Volunteer.

I'm currently editing the TLR's FUSEE and the Twin Cities Division's *Crossing Gate* – both quarterly newsletters. Although I love writing articles for the commercial modeling press, in real life I play an advertising writer, and have been married to my tremendously supportive, tremendously talented quilting wife, Renay – who I met in one of the rock bands – for 20 years.

Visit the Bona Vista at <http://home.earthlink.net/~gerryleone/trains.htm>.



Why short-change yourself by filling out your model contest forms at the convention? Give your work the credit it deserves and get started now! See page 8.

Treasurer's Report

By John Hotvet, MMR

With the recent close-out of the NorthStar '99 financial account and transfer of assets to the TLR, we were in the envious position of having \$34,113.11 in the TLR checking account. At the mid-year Board meeting, a motion was passed directing the Treasurer to transfer \$25,000 of these funds into interest earning investments.

Following their direction, we have invested \$25,000 in the following time accounts through Wells Fargo that pay annual interest. The interest will be paid to the Treasurer annually and deposited in the checking account to pay normal operating expenses, but preserving the principal amount.

\$5,000 at an Annual Percentage Yield (APR) of 1.25% (12 month renewal): \$62.50 interest

\$10,000 at an APR of 2.50% (21 month renewal): \$250.00 interest

\$10,000 at an APR of 3.00% (33 month renewal): \$300.00 interest

The \$612.50 in interest will be used to help balance our annual operating budget. Now if we can find a volunteer to help sell advertising in THE FUSEE (hint, hint to someone) the financial picture will look brighter for the TLR as we transition into the reorganization when the Long Range Plan is implemented.

appropriate rear view mirrors and grab irons behind the doors. I installed the grabs at this time but held off on the mirrors.

Then it was off to the paint shop where everything got spray painted. I used a light gray for the cab interior, red on the tank truck, blue on the stake truck, green on the dump truck cab, and black on the dump bed. On two of the trucks I masked off the cab and sprayed the fenders black. The frames were all sprayed black, and the wheel hubs were sprayed the same color as the cab shell.

After the paint dried I added the rearview mirrors on all three trucks. I then brush painted the fine details – silver on the headlights, rooftop running lights, door handles, hood insignias, and grills where appropriate; brown or green on the seat; brown on the steering wheel and shift lever; and whatever looked good on the driver's skin, shirt, and hair.

Finally the components were all glued together with CA, except the window insert, on which I used Walthers Goo. The rubber tires were slipped on to the axle hubs and were superglued onto the frame assembly, checking to make sure all four tires were touching a flat surface. A really nice feature is the "poseable" front wheels; a cylinder is cast onto the front axle and a corresponding cylindrical hole is cast into the back of the front wheels so that the tires can be installed at an angle rather than always facing forward. The cab interior was then glued in place, followed by the cab shell and the truck body. Don't forget to put the window insert in place before gluing the cab onto the frame.

I also added license plates and mud flaps to each of the trucks, having less-than-fond memories of rocks being thrown by construction vehicles into my van's windshield. The leftover mirrors from these kits have been added to several of my older models that lacked them, so the entire fleet will have an upgraded appearance.

These kits were easy and fun to build. I look forward to building up several more of them in the near future. They are somewhat pricey (around US\$16 per vehicle) but just a few foreground models will help to dress up any scene.

Highlights of the NMRA mid-year Trustee meeting

By Les Breuer, TLR Trustee

The mid-year NMRA Board Of Trustees meeting was held in January 2005. The motions presented amended the NMRA Regulations, adopted July 2004, and the Executive Handbook. The Regulations will be implemented over the next year and will fully replace the old Constitution and By-laws by September 1, 2005. The Regulations, old Constitution and By-laws are available at www.nmra.org.

Motions amending the NMRA regulations dealt with the following: Article III, section 21, terms of office for the new Directors (Directors replace Trustees at the start of the 2005 Annual BOD meeting) shall be three years; Article IV, membership and dues, had member plus subscription and life member plus life subscription removed; Article VI, departments, made revision to Publication Department; Article VII, committees, combined the Finance and Budget committees, moved some committees to other areas of the organization and eliminated others; Article X, nominations, ballots, and voting, resolved Atlantic and Pacific district issues. All motions in original or amended format passed.

A second motion dealing with the terms of office for Directors (the NMRA Board of Directors consists of nine members per the Regulations) made changes to a motion passed at the Seattle board meeting, July 2004. The key item here: the Board will assign, by lot, the duration of the first term for each Director. The terms will be for one, two or three years. The motion passed. The Central Director and Canada Director, by lot, each received a three year term.

You'll be receiving an NMRA ballot to vote for these Directors. The TLR had a 5.6% voter turnout in this past election, second only to the Northeast Region, with 6.3% percent. I know we can do even better, so PLEASE VOTE for your new Directors (previously known as Trustees).

Other motions at the meeting amended the Executive Handbook.

Of special interest were the following changes to Dues & Communication fees:

Annual dues & communications fees for classes of U.S. membership set forth in the Regulations are: membership \$33 per year, family member \$7 per year, student member \$24 per year, patron member \$100 or more per year and corporate member \$175 per year. Subscriptions to *Scale Rails* are available to all U.S. members for \$12/year and to Canadian members for \$19/year. The Region allocation (the amount paid by the NMRA to the Regions) will be \$2 per member. Note that these fees do not apply to those in the Australasian and British Regions, or Canada.

Canada and the Australasian and British Regions will assume all administrative

The Bulletin will be made available electronically and Life Membership has been eliminated.

responsibilities for members residing within their areas. In return, the portion of dues that normally would be allocated to national administrative expenses will be withheld.

Effective September 1, 2005, the NMRA Bulletin

will be made available to all members in an electronic format.

Other motions presented and passed: **Life membership has been eliminated**, Meeting & Trade Shows Department will control NMRA national conventions, a *performance* audit committee was established as a Presidential committee, and Rail Pass membership program was extended for one year, expiring September 2006.

Officer, Departmental, Committee, and Trustees reports were also presented. Highlights: The NMRA financial statements for the fiscal year ended August 31, 2004 show a surplus of \$11,235 for the fiscal year. The NMRA financial statements for the three months ended November 30, 2004 show a deficit of \$4,582 for the three month period. The \$4,582 loss reflects the annual real estate and personal property taxes of the Corporation. The NMRA total membership count for the three month period ending December 31, 2004 was 19,365, a decline of 458 members for the period. Analysis of NMRA members shows the average age of the NMRA member is 59 plus years. **The Thousand Lakes Region membership count ended December 31, 2004 shows a total membership count of 474 members.**

RIVER CITY 2005



A COMBINED CONVENTION OF THE
CHICAGO & NORTH WESTERN
HISTORICAL SOCIETY

AND
THE THOUSAND LAKES REGION - NMRA

THURSDAY MAY 19, FRIDAY MAY 20, SATURDAY MAY 21, SUNDAY MAY 22
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- NMRA Photo and Model Contests
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- Saturday Train Rides - Operation Lifesaver on either Spine Line or Fairmont (MN) Branch (possible, not guaranteed); Trolley rides in Mason City
- Family/non-rail activities: Luncheon, Dessert, and Tours
- Saturday banquet buffet with guest speaker Mr. Max Jones, Roadmaster - C&NW
- Saturday Night Auction
- Sunday Breakfast, Awards and Swap Meet

River City 2005

HOTEL ROOM RESERVATION INFORMATION

HANFORD INN • 3041 4th SW (Hwy 129 & Business Hwy 18), MASON CITY, IOWA, 50401-1567

Additional Hotels in Mason City (within 1 mile): Holiday Inn 641-423-1640 • Super 8 641-423-8855
• Comfort Inn 641-423-4444 • Country Inn & Suites 641-423-1770 • Days Inn 641-424-0210
Additional Hotels in Clear Lake (5 miles west): Best Western 641-357-5253 • AmericInn 641-357-8954
• Budget 641-357-8700 • Super 8 641-357-7521
for all the above hotels, mention you are with the C&NWHS for a discount rate

River City 2005 Schedule of Events

Thursday May 19

4:00-6:00 PM

River City 2005 Registration table open, Contest room set-up and open, Company store set-up and open

6:00 PM

Reception of TLR and C&NWHS BOD, guest Clinicians, Convention Committee and other registered Members at Music Man Square with Union Pacific Mason City Employees Club #72.

8:00 PM

Old Timers Reunion / Open slide showing by members and guests, (slides are limited to 15 minutes for each person until each person wishing to show slides is accommodated.)

Friday May 20

7:00-11:30 AM

River City 2005 Registration table open

8:00-8:30 AM

Clinic of Holcim Cement Tour by Steve Otto

8:30-11:30 AM

Company store open

8:30-11:30 AM

C&NWHS Model/photo contest registration

9:00-11:30 AM

Tours Depart: North goes to Holcim, UP Yards and Manly; South goes to IC&E, Flint, IATR, Golden Grain Energy Alcohol Plant

11:00-3:30 PM

One bus from each group leaves for Non Rail Tour: Music Man, Marjorie's Tea House, and Tour of homes

12:00-1:00 PM

Lunch on your own

1:00-3:30 PM

Tours Depart: North and South tours switch

4:00-5:00 PM

C&NWHS Annual Meeting

5:00-6:00 PM

C&NWHS Board of Directors meeting

6:30-7:30 PM

Reception in hotel with entertainment

7:30-9:00 PM

Evening Feature presentation

9:00 PM

Open Showing of Slides

Detailed maps of Mason City are available by email request from Jim Wetzler. They'll also be available at registration.

Saturday May 21

6:30-8:00 AM

Continental breakfast at hotel

7:00-8:00 AM

Registration table open

7:00-1:00 PM

C&NWHS popular contest voting on model and photos

8:00-9:00 AM

TLR Model/photo contest registration

8:00-9:00 AM

Buses for train ride shuttle passengers to departure site

9:00-11:00 AM

Train Ride on Operation Lifesaver (subject to schedule and availability)

12:00-1:00 PM

Lunch on your own

1:00-3:30 PM

One bus from each group leaves for Non Rail Tours - Clear Lake and Surf Ballroom

1:00-4:00 PM

Trolley rides available, shuttles operating to location in groups

1:00-5:00 PM

Clinics and slide presentations (to be announced)

5:00-6:00 PM

Social Hour & Model/photo entries pick up (must be claimed by 9:00 PM)

6:00-8:30 PM

River City 2005 Banquet, with guest speaker Mr. Max Jones, Roadmaster, Mason City, C&NW, currently MTM, Union Pacific

9:00 PM

Railroadiana auction

Sunday May 22

7:30-10:45 AM

Breakfast Brunch buffet in Fourth Street Diner

8:00-9:00 AM

River City 2005 Awards ceremony

9:00-10:00 AM

Swap meet (C&NWHS and TLR members only)

10:00-1:00 PM

Swap meet open to the public

10:00-11:00AM

TLR General Membership Meeting

1:00-3:30 PM

Activities on your own; home layout tours

Important Note: All planned tours are subject to change or cancellation with little or no prior notice dependent upon current railroad operational guidelines in effect during our meet. For tours on railroad and industrial property, you will be required to sign releases. Please follow tour guides and do not wander off from tour group. Cement plant walking tour: (limited to 40 persons); work shoes, long pants (jeans), & gloves (recommended.) Hard hats, safety glasses, and hearing protection will be issued. No persons under 18 years old admitted. If you have trouble walking, breathing, or any other health-related problems, we recommend you not take this tour — it's hot, dusty, and requires climbing. There also will be bus tours of the Holcim Mason City Cement Plant complex as well as the walking tour.

NOTE: Both Friday and Saturday railroad trips will require riding the bus. No personal vehicles allowed. Must wear name badges during tours for identification.

Dealer Tables: \$15.00 each in advance, \$18.00 each after April 15 or at the door if space available. Contact Jay Davis, 3107 5th Street, Emmetsburg, Iowa 50536. email: jdandice22c@Hotmail.com. Phone 712-834-2073.

Dealer Set-Up Time: 6:30AM (tables preassigned)

River City 2005 Meet Fee Schedule

Please complete the following registration form for the 2005 Annual TLR Meet to be held in Mason City, Iowa, May 19-22, 2005.

	<u>Qty.</u>	<u>Amt.</u>	<u>Total</u>
Complete Convention - Members before April 15, 2005	_____	\$105	_____
Complete Convention - Non-Members before April 15, 2005	_____	\$115	_____
Late Fee (After April 15, 2005)	_____	\$15	_____

The Following Fees are for use by those that do not wish to sign up for the Complete Convention:

Meet Fee – Member	_____	\$20	_____
Meet Fee – Non-Member	_____	\$30	_____
Thursday Reception at Music Man Square	_____	\$10	_____
Friday and Saturday Tours - Power Plant and Holcim Cement, Rail Sites Tour, Operation Lifesaver Train, and Trolley Rides	_____	\$20	_____
Friday Evening Reception (light meal)	_____	\$20	_____
Saturday Evening Banquet Dinner (Meet Fee not required if only attending Banquet)	_____	\$25	_____
Sunday Awards Brunch Buffet	_____	\$10	_____

Non-Rail Activities

(not part of complete convention fee)

- Luncheon Tea & Tour, or _____ \$15 _____
- Tour & Dessert Tea (please select only one) _____
- Saturday Clear Lake Tour _____ \$5 _____

Extra Fare - Limited Run Convention Special: HO-Scale
3-pack of Bowser Cement Cars in C&NW, M&StL, and
CGW (price will be \$35 after April 15, 2005) _____ \$30 _____

River City 2005 Meet

Number of people registering _____ Total Amount Enclosed _____

NOTE! The Meet Fee is required for all activities except the Banquet and the Swap Meet.

Make check or money order payable to **Chicago & North Western Historical Society**. Do not send cash! **Do not mail after April 15, 2005.** All tickets are to be picked up at the registration table when you arrive. **Sorry, no refunds after May 1, 2005.**

Names: _____ C&NWHS Member TLR Member

Street Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

I Wish to pay with check Visa MasterCard or Discover Card # _____

Exp Date _____ Signature _____

Please make checks payable to the C&NWHS and mail this entire page to:

Mail to: **Jim Wetzler**
River City 2005 Meet
Registrar, TLR,
16788 315th Ave.
Granada, MN 56039

For TLR questions email Jim Wetzler at jwetzler@bevcomm.net or call 507-866-4492

JUDGES' SCORE SHEET for NMRA MODEL CONTEST

Model Description

Entry No.

Describe the model in detail. Check all the items that apply. Add additional data. Attach extra pages with photos/plans/drawings and additional description as needed. Add as much additional information as possible about techniques and work incurred.

1. CONSTRUCTION (Maximum 40 Points)

Points Awarded

- | | | | |
|--|--|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Drew my own plans | <input type="checkbox"/> Followed construction article | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Used prototype plans | <input type="checkbox"/> Cut and fit metal | <input type="checkbox"/> Cut and fit cardstock | <input type="checkbox"/> Soldered |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Used kit plans | <input type="checkbox"/> Cut and fit plastic | <input type="checkbox"/> Cut and fit glass | <input type="checkbox"/> Made patterns |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Used commercial plans | <input type="checkbox"/> Cut and fit wood | <input type="checkbox"/> Crosskitted or kitbashed | <input type="checkbox"/> Made molds |

Describe in detail how model was built, complexity of construction, methods used. _____

2. DETAIL (Maximum 20 Points)

Points Awarded

Describe complexity, difficulty, refinement, amount of additional detail parts added.

3. CONFORMITY (Maximum 25 Points)

Points Awarded

Give information as to prototype modeled or explain logic of design. Include copies of photos, drawings and plans.

4. FINISH and LETTERING (Maximum 25 Points)

Points Awarded

Finish: Weathered Non-Weathered Spray Airbrush Mask and Spray
Signs & Lettering: Decals Hand Letter Dry Transfers Photo Reduction Photo Etching

Describe finish and lettering methods in detail. _____

5. SCRATCHBUILDING. (Maximum 15 Points)

Points Awarded

List all the parts you have fabricated. Note any special or unusual features added. _____

This space for contest committee only.

Score Tabulated by _____ Verified by _____

NMRA Contest Form 902 Rev B, 23 July 2000. All previous versions of this Form are obsolete. **FINAL TOTAL**

No. 1 Northern Division celebrates another big year



A young guest discovers the World's Greatest Hobby at the Gateway Western's first anniversary celebration last January.

By Ron Einarson, Superintendent

The 2004-2005 model railroading season started off with a bang here in No. 1 Northern territory. The first meeting of the WMRC was followed by the Midwest Rail Museum's annual Railway Days. The next weekend was the WMRC's Great Canadian Train Show which featured an operating layout from Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan. They drove 400 miles but it was the hit of the show.

The Gateway Western layout is in full

operation and continues to be a hit. The Gooch's Hobby Shop Open House featuring the Gateway as well as WinNtrak N scale layout, the Hobby Shop owner's N scale layout, along with lots of demonstrations, was a tremendous success. The traffic through the doors was incredible and at times you could hardly move through any of the three floors of hobby related displays. Questions from the public were non-stop. All the model railroad clubs gained

new members.

The monthly meetings of the WMRC will again feature the No. 1 Northern Beginners Series of clinics. Some topics are: Building a DPM building; Tips on building plastic kits; Keeping freight cars rolling; Scenery basics, and Detailing the inside of hoppers. The new year topics will include more scenery basics, track laying basics and contest preparation - model & paperwork.

Of particular importance to the WMRC is

the 1st Anniversary of the rebirth of the Gateway Western Railway - the Operating Division of the WMRC (12'x 24' modular layout) that took place on January 15th, 2005. Activities surrounding the event included a cake baked by the WMRC President, Terry Penner, refreshments and a great gathering of local model railroaders - 70 to 80 people passed through the layout room, including long-standing members, new members, and former members.

The 50th Anniversary of the WMRC is major event of the year. Joining the WMRC and No. 1 Northern are members of the Canadian Association of Railway Modelers (CARM), the CN & CP SIGs, the Canadian Railroad Historical Association (CHAN) and Midwestern Rail in Winnipeg May 20-22, 2005 as they help to celebrate its 50th anniversary! The schedule includes over 30 clinics; layout tours; railfan tour to Portage la Prairie; tours of the CPR diesel shop and the Winnipeg Railway Museum; special tour on VIA; and feature speaker Ian Wilson and clinician Andy Sperandio from *Model Railroader*. Look under the Golden Rails logo you'll find on our website at <http://www.caorm.org/> for further details.

Year-round activities earmark the Luce Line Club

**by Terry Davis, LLRC Newsletter editor
TLR Public Relations Chair**

Members of Luce Line Railroad Club Inc., a Hutchinson-based club, voted to become a 100-percent NMRA club when they moved into the Hutchinson Mall in May 2002, getting them affordable NMRA liability insurance coverage for their new home and their popular Hutchinson fairgrounds show each October.

While there was concern some members would refuse to join the NMRA, only a few declined. Being in the mall attracted new, more active members. Membership was about 25 in late 2004.

LLRC celebrated its 10th anniversary in November 2003 with a special Sunday evening banquet at a local restaurant. Past officers and Gold Spike Award (Member of the Year) winners were honored. Video his-

tories of the club were shown, as were railfan slide shows. A written 10-year history of the club compiled by Terry Davis was handed out. Twenty-seven attended.

In December, the club again hosted Christmas Trains. Our mall home was decorated for the holiday and all three layouts (HO, American Flyer and three-rail) featured operating Christmas trains. About 300 second-graders from Hutchinson schools also toured the layouts.

In March 2004, the club's three-rail layout visited Our Savior's Lutheran School in Hutchinson as part of a railroad-themed fund-raiser.

The club's second Spring "Rail Fest" took place May 1-2, 2004, at Hutchinson Mall. There were five layouts and 37 flea market tables. "Rail Fest" was started in 2003 at the request of the mall.

In June 2004, the LLRC's 31-foot by 8-foot HO empire traveled to the St. James club for "Railroad Days."

Aug. 1 was the club's annual summer picnic at the incredible End-O-Line Railroad Park in Currie, MN. Eleven members made the trip, which included a tour of the hand-operated turntable, restored C&NW depot, section foreman's house and school, two steam engines and a HO replica of Currie in the early 1900s that operates in the depot.

LLRC and the Minnesota River Valley Division of the TLR hosted another successful Hutchinson Model Railroad Show on Oct. 9, 2004. Our 10th show had 17 layouts from Hutchinson, Dawson, Glenwood, Ortonville, St. Cloud, and the Twin Cities. It was probably the largest gathering of layouts in Minnesota in several years. More than 500 people are estimated to have attended.

Want your Division or club featured in THE FUSEE? Write up an article and send it in! See Page 11 for details.

A special contest will return to the 2006 convention

By Pat Walker

Even though the 2005 Convention hasn't happened yet, it's not too soon to be thinking about next year!

One of the fun things at a TLR Convention (well, OK, it's all fun) is the contests. Seeing what others have done, allowing others to see what you have done, learning from the judges' comments, walking away with a ribbon or plaque, all are fun memories of a convention.

One aspect of the contests that some may remember from the past is being resurrected for the 2006 Convention being held in the Twin Cities: The Special Category. This is usually a structure or piece of rolling stock that is representative of the convention area. Sugar beet cars, grain cars, a certain landmark tower, etc. There were a lot of possibilities for the Twin Cities, but the final choice is: Fallen Flags in the 21st Century.

What would a Great Northern SD80MAC look like? How about a fresh-from-the-shop Bombardier Twin Cities Rapid Transit Line light rail car? Have you ever considered a fleet of Auto-Maxs all decorated for the Minneapolis and St. Louis? Or a fleet of Chicago Great Western TOFCs? Here's your opportunity.

You have plenty of time, so put on your thinking caps and get to work. The rules are simple: it had to run through the Twin Cities at one time, but not any more. And the entry must be something current, something you could see on the rails today. That's it!

And when the contest is over, you'll have a unique piece or rolling stock or motive power unlike any other. It will be more rare than a Penn Central steam locomotive!

Keep watching THE FUSEE for more information about the 2006 Convention. There will also be information available online at the Region's website: <http://www.thousandlakesregion.org>, and you can contact us at 2006@thousandlakesregion.org. We look forward to seeing you, and your contest entries, in the Twin Cities.

Minutes of the October 2004 BOD meeting

The following is the last set of "delinquent" minutes. They should have run in the Winter 2004/2005 newsletter, but we ran out of room. Finally... we're all caught up!
-The Editor

NATIONAL MODEL RAIL ASSOCIATION INC.
THOUSAND LAKES REGION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING
OCTOBER 30, 2004
COMO PARK, ST PAUL MINNESOTA

The meeting was called to order at 8:45 am.

Those present included: Bruce Selb, Charles Durrenberger, Lloyd Stresman, Gordy Miller, John Hotvet, Terry Davis, Thomas Mauszycki, Les Breuer, Pat Walker, Gerry Leone, Jim Wetzler, Frank Gerry.

Minutes from Sioux Falls, South Dakota 2002 Board of Directors and annual general meeting minutes were read. John Hotvet made a motion to accept the minutes. Seconded by Charles Durrenberger. Carried.

Minutes from Grand Forks, North Dakota, 2004 Board of Directors meeting and annual general meeting were presented. A motion to accept the minutes was made by Terry Davis, seconded by John Hotvet. Carried.

The Canadian and American **Treasurer's reports** were presented by John Hotvet. A motion to accept report was made by Thomas Mauszycki, seconded by Lloyd Stresman. Carried.

The **Trustee's report** was made by Frank Gerry (attended NMRA Seattle Board of Directors' meeting) and Les Breuer. The NMRA long range plan vote results presented at the Seattle meeting with plan being passed by the membership Single dues take effect September 1, 2005. Present trustees will remain in current positions until June 2005 elections.

Vice President's report was presented. See report.

Contest Director thanked Gerry Leone for PowerPoint presentation of photographs, awards, etc. at the Grand Forks convention.

Public Relations Terry Davis's report was received.

Convention report by Gordy Miller was received. River City 2005 information was shared. Future convention: Twin Cities 2006.

Committee Reports

Achievement: 11 achievement certificates have been awarded since Grand Forks, May 2004.

Member aid: requires a volunteer.

Historian: The database is up to date.

FUSEE: Gerry Leone accepted appointment as editor temporarily.

Website: is up and running.

Grand Forks: convention report was received.

Membership: list is up to date. 200 people are on the mailing list. 10% of TLR members do not currently belong to NMRA.

Old Business

Grand Forks Convention report.

Vote by Division superintendents was tabled.

The proposed Wild River Division has not happened. The Eau Claire clubs look at NMRA division as competition. There are questions about the benefits of belonging to NMRA.

New Business

Website address is paid up for 1.5 years. A motion to detach and create an independent TLR web site on a separate server was made by Lloyd Stresman, seconded by Charles Durrenberger. Carried. The cost is \$92.50 per year. See report.

Treasurer to officially thank North Star 99 committee for financial donation. Motion made by Charles Durrenberger, seconded by Terry Davis. Carried.

250 contest certificates are to be printed. Moved by John Hotvet, seconded by Lloyd Stresman. Carried.

There was discussion for plaque engraving to be done by one company. Topic was tabled.

Discussion to reduce the registration costs for contest judges was held. The topic was tabled.

A motion that TLR membership dues be increased to \$10 annually was made by Lloyd Stresman. Seconded by Thomas Mauszycki. Carried.

A motion that \$25,000 of the \$34,000 donated by North Star 99 be invested in various interest-bearing accounts was made by John Hotvet. Seconded Gordy Miller. Carried.

Mike Penn's letter of resignation as trustee was read to the Board.

TLR by-law changes to conform with NMRA by-laws will be examined by a committee struck by president. Findings to be published in FUSEE prior to Mason City meeting, May 2005.

Bob Due Sr. list was created with secret ballot vote. President has confidential results.

For the good of the order, the next meeting of the Board of Directors of the Thousand Lakes Region of the National Model Railroad Association will be held during the Mason City Convention in May 2005.

Motion made to adjourn made by John Hotvet at 12:09 pm.

TrainToons

by Paul Ullrich



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Paul Bunyan Division

Position open

THE FUSEE

is a quarterly publication of the Thousand Lakes Region of the National Model Railroad Association and is mailed to all members. The membership year runs from June 1 through May 31. Dues are \$8.00 per year, and can be mailed to the Treasurer.

Permission is granted to reproduce any portion of THE FUSEE for use in other non-profit publications as long as proper credit is given and a copy is sent to the editor.

All contributions except advertising are considered donations. Submissions can be made by floppy disk, email, CD-ROM or hard copy, either PC or Mac. However, please do not email photos. Send materials to: Gerry Leone, 6459 Smithtown Road, Excelsior, MN 55331, or fusee@thousandlakesregion.org

If you're moving, please mail a change-of-address form to the Treasurer.

WANTED: GOOD HOME

for THE FUSEE

We need a permanent editor, not some fly-by-night hack like we have now.

Want to but don't know how? We'll give you the software and train you until you're comfortable flying solo. Seriously, it's not as hard as it looks.

If you're interested, maybe even a little, contact Bruce Selb (TLR President), or Gerry Leone MMR, the current FUSEE hack.

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	Annual Pike ad rate
Full pg 9" x 7"	\$145.00	\$90.00
1/2 pg 4" x 7"	90.00	45.00
1/4 pg 4" x 3"	45.00	25.00
1/6 pg 4" x 2"	35.00	18.50
1/8 pg 2" x 2"	25.00	15.00
1/8 pg 3" x 2"	25.00	15.00
1/12 pg 2" x 2"	18.50	10.00
1/16 pg 1" x 3"	15.00	7.50

All advertising should be mailed (not emailed) 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!

Membership & Renewal Application

I'm enclosing payment for: _____ New membership

_____ \$8 for one year _____ Existing membership

_____ \$16 for two years _____ Returning member

Name: _____ Scale(s): _____

Address: _____

City: _____ NMRA #: _____

State/Province: _____ Zip/Postal Code: _____

Phone: (_____) _____

Email: _____@_____

Mail to: **John Hotvet, Treasurer**
5100 Nicollet Ave. S., Minneapolis, MN 55419



THE FUSEE

P.O. Box 1113
Burnsville, MN 55337

INSIDE:

**Special "River City"
pull-out section**

Mid-year Trustee report

An MMR for the TLR

Train shows, events & meetings around the Region

Compiled by Jim Bernier (with Al Dowd)

Sat/Sun, 3/12-13/2005 -

10:00 AM - (6:00 PM Sat)(4:00PM Sun)

LaCrosse & Three Rivers Railroad Show, LaCrosse Center, 2nd & Pearl St. LaCrosse, WI. Admission: \$4.00. For more information: www.l3rclub.rrdepot.com/.

Saturday, 04/02/2005 - 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Greater Upper Midwest Train Show & Sale, Century College West Campus, 3300 Century Avenue North, White Bear Lake, MN (Two blocks north of I-694 and Highway 120 [Century Avenue]). Admission: adults \$4.00; children 12 and under free. Show contact: Tom Jefferson at (651) 429-2885.

Saturday, 04/23/2005 - 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM

Newport Flea Market, Woodbury HS, 2665 Woodlane Dr., Woodbury, MN. Admission: unknown. For more information: dsblume@compuserve.com

Saturday, April 30 & Sunday May 1, 2005 -

(10:00 AM Sat)(12:00 PM Sun) - 6:00 PM

Luce Line Club, Inc.'s Spring Rail Fest, Hutchinson Mall, 1060 State Highway 15 S., Hutchinson, MN. Free admission. Flea market and operating railroads. For more information email Terry Davis at davis@hutchinsonleader.com

Sat / Sun, 5/19-20/2005

Thousand Lakes Region and Chicago & Northwestern Historical Society Joint Convention, Hanford Inn, Mason City, IA. Admission: TLR and NMRA membership required. Complete convention information and registration materials will be included in the next issue of THE FUSEE. See article in this issue for an overview of the convention. For more information contact Gordy Miller at gmillier@bevcomm.net.

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.