



Callboard

The official publication of the Rocky Mountain Region, National Model Railroad Association

May 2010

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RAMBLINGS FROM THE PRESIDENT

How time flies by when one is having fun. I have been working on my car section of the MMR and having a great time. I certainly hope your work on the railroad has been as pleasurable.

The region convention is fast approaching, and I am sure the South Suburban and Sunrise Divisions have prepared a superior convention. Check out this issue of the CallBoard for more information on this convention. Plan to attend; this is one of your benefits of the NMRA, the camaraderie with fellow members and seeing what they have accomplished during the long winter here in the Rocky Mountain Region. I know I look forward to renewing old acquaintances, and making new friends at this convention. You may be surprised at the ideas your fellow members can come up with to solve that particular problem you are having with the current model you are building. The Utah guys are planning the next convention (2011) and I know them well enough to say they will have a great convention also. Plan now to attend it. We need some one or Division to make a bid for the 2012 convention at the board meeting during the convention.

I have in the past few months received calls from disgruntled members, not really at the NMRA but at the current leaders in their organization. The best answer I have for this problem is to step up to the plate and run to replace that leader in your organization, during the next election your organization has. We are going to have an election for Board Members this go around, but no one stepped to the plate in several of the categories and the present people agreed to remain in the position. I am currently looking for a Region Boy Scout Coordinator and a person to handle the mailing labels, (Thank You Bob Charles for taking on this additional position along with your Board Members duties). For those of you interested in helping our hobby, please consider filling one of these positions.

I do want to encourage all of you to call, email or write me if you have a problem or need an answer about the way your organization is run. My phone number is 307-672-8471; my snail mail address is Harold Huber 1405 Dana Ave. Sheridan, WY 82801-2405; and my email is sarge9usa@bresnan.net. I may not have the answer at hand but will research and find an answer. I also may not have the answer you want to hear, but I will do all I can to get the correct answer to you.

Well, back to the model bench, see you at the convention, stop by and say hello.

Harold Huber

Rocky Mountain Region -NMRA

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	Michael Weiss	mikeweiss65@gmail.com	(575) 532-1051
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	Martin Pirnat	martin@rmi.net	(970) 247-5349
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Promotions:	Rich Flammmini	rmflammini@msn.com
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The Callboard is published quarterly, in February, May, August and November.

Editor: Dick Hunter: 832 Geneva Street, Aurora CO 80010-3941 hunterrl@central.com Phone 303-364-4814

Richard Sons – 1936 - 2009

Dick was a life member of the NMRA. He joined the NMRA in 1976 and was active in the Rocky Mountain Region and the Albuquerque area for many years. I enjoyed visiting with him many times at our conventions, over the years. He was presented with his Master Model Railroader Award on November 15, 2009. He had worked on this for many years and it was a strong goal in his life. Dick passed away on November 19, 2009. Dick Hunter

Tracks to Alamosa - The 2010 RMR Convention

Thursday through Sunday - June 3 through 6, 2010

Includes an all day train ride from Alamosa to La Veta and return.

Convention headquarters is the Inn of the Rio Grande, 333 Santa Fe Ave., Alamosa, CO, 81101. This is along US 160, on the east end of Alamosa. We have a rate of \$84+ tax per room. Reservations received after May 4, 2010 will be at the group rate on an availability basis only. For a break from railroading, try the pool or indoor water park at the headquarters hotel. Their reservation line is 719-589-5833 or 1-800-669-1658.

Be sure to specify you are members of the Tracks to Alamosa Convention.

There will be maps and a flyer in the registration packet for some photo spots. While in Alamosa, be sure to visit the refurbished depot, historic loco in the park, and other sites.

Planned Schedule

Thursday evening – Registration.

Friday morning – Registration, clinics, contest entry.

Friday afternoon – Open time, yard and shop tours.

Friday evening - Registration, clinics, contest entry, Summerfest on the Rio (free, non-rail activity).

Saturday morning & afternoon – Train trip: Alamosa to La Veta and return, Summerfest.

Saturday evening – Contest judging, videos, social center, Summerfest.

Sunday morning – Model pick up, Hobo breakfast, contest awards, RMR-BOD meeting, Summerfest.

Sunday afternoon – Layout tours on the way home, Summerfest.

See the February issue of the Callboard for more information or: www.TracksToAlamosa.org email: tracksalamosa@ecentral.com Richard L Hunter – Registrar, 832 Geneva Street, Aurora CO 80010-3941

On Your Way – To and From the Convention

If you have some extra time before and / or after the convention, you might want to visit other railroad activities in the area.

The Rio Grande Scenic Railroad, our host for the Saturday trip, has a couple of other operations that might interest you. They have a run to Monte Vista and return plus a run from Alamosa to Antonito to connect with the Cumbres and Toltec Scenic Railroad.

Contact: 877-726-7245 riograndescenicrailroad.com

The Cumbres and Toltec Scenic Railroad operates between Antonito, Colorado and Chama, New Mexico. They have a train from each end which meet at Osier for lunch and then return to the starting point.

Through ticketing is available. I know a couple people who plan to ride the C&TSR on Thursday, before the convention. The plan is to stay at the convention hotel on Wednesday night, drive to Antonito in time to catch the C&TSR bus to Chama. Then ride the trains back to Antonito where their car is waiting to get back to Alamosa in the evening.

Contact: 888-286-2737 cumbrestoltec.com

The Durango and Silverton Narrow Gauge Railroad operates between those two towns. Although they offer one way by train and return by bus, I recommend round trip on the train. As the sun moves, the colors change. The returning train gets back to Durango in the early evening, making it possible to drive to Alamosa in time for bed on Thursday evening and you can register first thing Friday morning.

Contact: 877-872-4607 durangotrain.com

In addition to the foregoing, there are any number of rail interest spots along the way. Coming from Denver or north of there, you can take US 285 and Colorado 17 to include several rail spots. From the northwest, follow US 50 from Montrose to Poncha Springs and then down the 285 / 17 route. Along US 50, are a number of spots to visit, like the loco on the bridge at Cimmaron. From the south, you can always come up via Chama and Antonito.

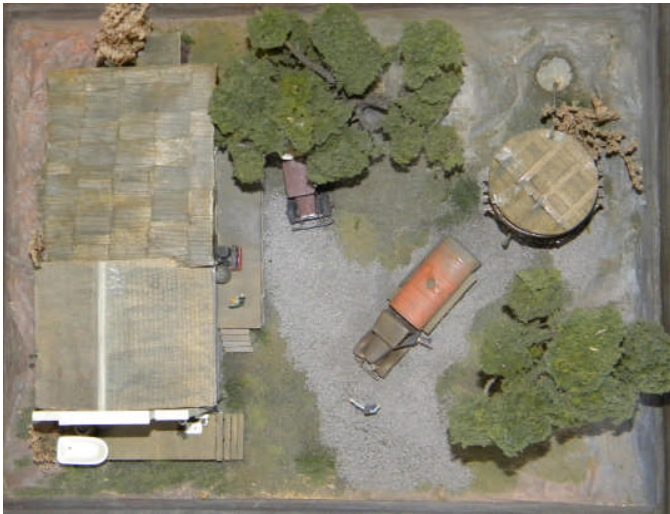
For those who want more information on the railroads and / or extra guidance to photo spots, I recommend the following:

The several books by Doris Osterwald (Western Guideways). These offer a mile by mile guide to the trips of several railroads.

Contact: 719-771-2371 westernguideways.com

The set of four guide books: Railfanning the Rio Grande Narrow Gauge by Richard Hunter. These provide locations and directions to good photo spots and when and which to face on the train for the best scenic views. This set covers the C&TSR, D&SNG, and RGS plus the scenic route from Denver to Durango. (I have to recommend these because I wrote them. Ed.)

Contact: rgngfan@central.com neighborhoodlink.com/org/riograndefan



A lot of detail can be included in a small area. Here we have vehicles, plumbing supplies, tools, people, and both scratch and kit built structures. Even in a small space, you get into most of the aspects of modeling.

Dumbrowski's Honeydippers **Model by: Kenneth Strasser**

This diorama measures 10" X 13" which makes it 130 square inches. This is well within the 144 square inches allowed for the Mini-Diorama contest at this year's convention. (This model is a sample and will not be in the contest.)



A.P. Awards without a model?

Unless things have changed recently, there are three A.P. Awards that do not require a model. These are "Official", "Volunteer", and "Author". How do you get these? Be an active member. Serve on committees like convention planning, etc. Hold office at the division, region, or national level. Write articles for the magazines, present clinics, etc. Interested? Check out the requirements on the NMRA web site or ask your division A.P. chair.

Dick Hunter

THOUGHTS FROM YOUR CONTEST CHAIRMAN

BY BILL TULLEY

As I am writing this column, there are two months remaining for model building before the convention in Alamosa in June. I am now beginning to think that this will not be enough time for me to complete my 144 square-inch Mini-Module in time for that convention. Lately, my time has been utilized completing the requirements for one of the AP awards. However, I have recently learned that a member of the Sunrise Division has a completed Mini-Module with another one under construction. Perhaps these two modules may come to Alamosa.

The Alamosa Contest will consist of the following modeling categories:

1. A Popular Vote Category, which will allow the attendees to choose their favorite model in each of the other contest categories.
2. Display Category where a model, either finished or under construction, may be shown to your fellow modelers. Note that models in this category will not be eligible for NMRA judging.
3. Mini-Module Category where a module that has a foot print of 144 square-inches or less may be displayed and judged as a diorama if the builder desires.
4. A standard NMRA judged model contest.

The required contest forms are available on the web at <NMRA.ORG> or from your division AP Chairman. Please have the required forms completed before entering your models in the contest room to help make the paper work easier for those of us managing this contest. Display Only Models will require the ownership form only while the Judged Models will require both forms plus the associated information requirement.

Bring lots of models and fill up the contest room. Even if that means that I will have to stay awake past midnight for the judging. See you in Alamosa.

REPORT FROM YOUR ELECTION CHAIRMAN

BY BILL TULLEY

Volunteers for the positions for this year's election of officers and directors for the Rocky Mountain Region administrative board has been sparse to say the least. At present, only eight individuals have stepped forward and volunteered for one of the positions that will be vacant after the Board of Directors meeting to be held in Alamosa this year. I was disappointed that no one from New Mexico, Utah and Wyoming chose to run for any of the Director positions.

BY-LAW V ELECTION OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS, Sec. 8 "No elected officer or director of the Region, except the Secretary and Treasurer, shall hold the same office or position for more than two (2) consecutive elected terms. This By-Law required me to disqualify one individual from running for another term as Director since he has been a Director for the two previous terms.

BY-LAW V ELECTION OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS, Sec. 9 "In the event that all of the positions on a given year's ballot are uncontested (that is, that there is no more than one candidate for each office, if applicable, and no more than three candidates for Directors), then no ballot will be sent out, and the candidates will be declared elected."

This By-Law clearly states that under the present situation, there is no requirement for an Election to be held this year for the following positions where only one individual volunteered for that specific position: President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and three Directors.

The following resumes were submitted to the Election Chairman for consideration in this year's Election.

For President: Harold Huber

I would like to be your president for another term. I am Harold Huber I have been your president for the last two years, I would like to be your president for another two years. I will not run again after two terms as it would be time for someone else to put their mark on the region. I have been in the NMRA for 26 years and have had the pleasure to belong to 4 of the Divisions in this region. I model in HO, HOn3, On30 and have built a couple of Fn3 models. I love traction and Narrow Gauge. I use (6' X 30") modules to portray my modeling. I am a free lance modeler who takes from all of the prototypes for my own modeling enjoyment. If I were able to stand long enough I would participate in operation, and have enjoyed the frustrations that this part of our hobby has brought to me. I am currently working on my MMR and have only the Engineer section and cars to finish this quest. I also am the AP Chair for the Wyoming Division, and have always volunteered to be a contest judge.

As many of you know I am not a national man and look to support the Division first and the Region second. The Division is the basis of this organization and national looks at them last when a decision is made, this is wrong and the Division must be taken into consideration second behind the modeler themselves. I have worked hard to get a system to notify the Divisions of who is not renewing, keeping the people that have joined happy, and notifying anyone who has joined or lapsed to try and satisfy their needs. We have worked hard on conventions and although this has not been successful I will continue to try to make our convention a pleasant experience. We have also worked hard on trying to correct some of the woes of the contest and the Achievement Program. Lastly Anyone may contact me by email sarge9@bresnan.net, Snail Mail 1405 Dana Ave Sheridan, WY 82801-2405, Phone 307-672-8471, and/or and discuss where this region needs to go and how we need to change. You may also contact me with a problem and I will try to resolve that problem. Many have taken the time to contact me and they will tell you I take any contact as serious and will work hard to resolve the matter you have contacted me with. Thank you for considering me for another term. Harold Huber - Sheridan, Wyoming

For Vice President: William Johnson

I have been active in the NMRA since the 1970's. As a Lifetime member since 1976 I have held the office of Superintendent of the Sunrise Division (8 years), program chairman (6 years). I have been the treasurer, of our division for over 17 years. The Sunrise Division hosted one of the biggest and longest running annual train show in the area. The Buckingham Square Mall Train show ran for over 20 years. I'm proud to say that I was the chairman for that show for 20 years. When the RMR hosted the 1991 National Convention in Denver I was on that committee and in charge of Indoor activities, at the convention hotel. Of course that was all some time ago. Today I'm still working for the Rocky Mountain Region as the current Vice President. In addition, I'm on the committee working on this year's convention, "Tracts to Alamosa". I would be honored to serve the RMR as Vice President for another term. William Johnson – Aurora, Colorado

For Director: Martin Pirnat

I would like to serve another term as a member of the Rocky Mountain Region Board of Directors. The last two years have been a good leaning experience for me and I believe I have made a positive contribution. I have been able to attend and participate in all of the region meetings as one of the few representatives from the west slope of Colorado, contribute to the discussion, and help with the decision making process. I would like to contribute my energies in the future. There was a great learning experience for me in being able to sit in on the early meetings of the group planning the 2010 convention, and I hope to put that knowledge to work in the future. I have been a member of the NMRA and the Rocky Mountain Regions since November, 1987 and have benefited from both organizations.

Our region continues, as does the national organization, to face many challenges, and I would like to build on the past two years to help meet them. As noted in a recent issue of Scale Rails, I believe the local

divisions and their members are the foundation for the national organization, and would work to support and strengthen our divisions at the regional level.

I continue to work on my HOn3 layout, serve on the Board and as Assistant Superintendent of the Silver San Juan Division, judge at both division and regional conventions, and present clinics at both levels as well. With the Golden Spike and the Volunteer Certificates, I am participating in the Achievement Program and advocate for it at the division level. Martin Pirnat - Durango, CO

For Director: Nate Bryant

Superintendent of the Sunrise Division (division 2) from November 2006 through November 2009.
Chairman of Timeless Rails (2007 RMR convention.)
Chairman of Tracks to Alamosa (2010 RMR convention) Nate Bryant – Denver, Colorado

For Director: Jim Laird

I am interested in throwing my hat in the ring for the region election. I would serve in any position to which I might be elected. I am recently retired, married with 2 grown children and 2 grand children.

I started reading *MODEL TRAINS* in 1959, when that folded, I moved on to *MODEL RAILROADER* and *RAILROAD MODEL CRAFTSMAN*. I joined the NMRA in 1960 (still have my Silver Membership card, became a life member in the 70's and am getting up out of the armchair now that I've retired.

After an early round of downsizing, my wife and I went into business. We successfully operated for 17 1/2 years. We retired from that and I worked in the Transportation Department of Cherry Creek Schools for 10 years.

My interests in the Hobby are scenery and scratch building, I haven't switched to DCC and probably won't. I am building a 2 level layout. The lower level is freeland based on the Appleton, Wisconsin area. The upper level is Narrow gauge following the *BELLVIEW & CASCADE* in Iowa.

Previously, I have served as Division Supervisor for the Winnebago Land Division, Midwest region and for a time I was also serving on the National Promotion committee.

I would be pleased to serve this Region and would welcome the opportunity to help promote the hobby.
Jim Laird – Aurora, Colorado

OFFICERS & DIRECTORS FOR THE 2010 – 2012 TERM

PRESIDENT: HAROLD HUBER

VICE PRESIDENT: WILLIAM JOHNSON

SECRETARY: GREG LONG

TREASURER: DON FRANCIS

DIRECTORS: MARTIN PIRNAT
NATE BRYANT
JIM LAIRD

DIRECTORS STILL SERVING THEIR 2009-2011 TERMS:

FRED CARLSON
ROBERT CHARLES
GARY MYERS

Members in the Mag's

Dick Hunter

Several recent magazine articles were written by our local people.

Steve Schweighofer has an article about Carroll Weis, in the March/April issue of the "Narrow Gauge and Short Line Gazette". Carroll was a long time member of the region and a pioneer in scratch-building.

Pat Lana's "N-Visible" column in the April "Scale Rails" talks about people and places that may seem familiar. Especially, if you visit Caboose Hobbies.

Also in the April issue of "Scale Rails", my railfan guides are announced in "Library Car".

Region Promotions

RMR Promotions Chairman, Rich Flammini, recently set up at the TECO train show in Colorado Springs. He signed up four new members for the NMRA. Two were Army, serving at Fort Carson. One was Air Force, serving at Peterson Air Force Base. Of the four, two were young modelers, the future of our hobby.

If there is a train show or open house in your area, ask for a promotions table and contact Rich for material to hand out. Membership starts at the grass roots, not at NMRA headquarters. Ed.

Division and Club Doings

Front Range Division - Superintendent: Paul Brennecke – pb80403@yahoo.com

The Front Range Division started a series of member layout tours in late April. The first round will include Jack Haptonstall's HOn3 D&RGW layout, Paul Brennecke's N scale protofreelance Grand Road, and new member Ned Habich's SP in the 50"s, also in N scale.

We have an invite from the Lockheed-Martin group to visit their layout in July. Our Division continues to meet the 3rd Monday of the month at 7:00 pm in the Colorado Railroad Museum Library. With summer coming on we sometimes have meetings at alternate locations so contact the Superintendent or check our "The Telegrapher" news letter for information.

Silver San Juan News - Superintendent: Ray Schmudde – schmudde@frontier.net

The Silver San Juan Division will have its spring meet 1 May at the First Presbyterian Church in Farmington, NM. Door open at 09:00; introductions at 09:45; first clinic at 10:00. Clinics are "Intro to DCC," "Intro to sound for DCC and DC," these clinics will be given by Soundtraxx personnel, and "Real-time railfanning using the Internet."

On 25 September, the Silver San Juan Division will hold its fall meet at the Durango Head Start meeting room at the Northpoint Mall. Door open at 09:00. No schedule of clinics as of now.

Sunrise Division – Superintendent: Gary Myers – garymyers06@comcast.net

In April, we met at Don Meeker's spectacular Rocky Mountain Lines layout for a "hands-on" operating clinic and an evening of fun. Don graciously opened his layout to the Division during the evening of our monthly meeting. Don's RML features long trains, long grades, helpers, long runs and switching. Some members had never operated on a layout such as this, but everyone came away from the evening impressed. Even the experienced operators enjoyed the session and everyone was able to learn something during the visit.



An example where Don used forced perspective, by using smaller scaled buildings in the background to add depth.



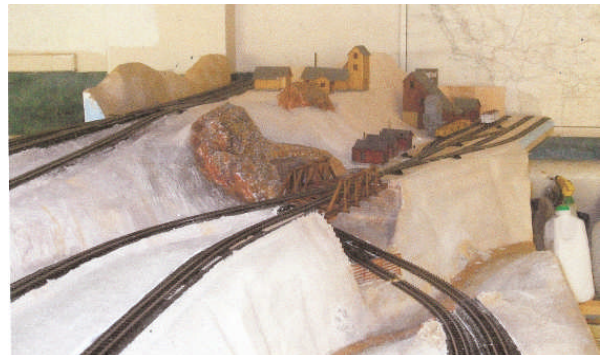
Vast areas and wide aisles help separate the operators on Don's layout, where only a very few of the operators are visible to each other at any particular time.

Starting with our May monthly meeting (due to increased attendance) we have moved again, now to the Holy Love Lutheran Church, 4210 S. Chambers Rd, Aurora, CO 80014. Please check our website <http://www.trainweb.org/SunriseDivision> for directions. We meet every first Thursday of the month, 7:15 - 9:15 PM, unless otherwise noted on the website.

In June we take a break for the Tracks To Alamosa convention, which we are working with the South Suburban Division, to bring Fred Carlson's original convention idea to fruition for the rest of the region. In addition to our regular monthly July and August meetings, we will enjoy a joint picnic with the Front Range Division at the Colorado Railroad Museum, on August 15th. During the summer and fall we look to have more layout visits, and a fall train ride.

NORTHERN WYOMING – Superintendent: Bill Tulley - railroadbill@vcn.com

On February 20, 2010 members of SMRA took a road trip to Hardin, Montana to attend a lecture on the Toluca, Montana to Cody, Wyoming branch line of the CB&Q railroad. This line was built in 1900 to access the Big Horn Basin of Wyoming. In 1908, an extension from Warren, Montana was built to Bridger, Montana for a connection with the NP eliminating the need for the section between Toluca and Warren, which was abandoned in 1911. Also starting in 1908 a line was built in sections south from Warren, Montana through the Big Horn Basin, to Casper, Wyoming and completed to a connection at Orin Junction, Wyoming with the C&S in 1914. Information on the Toluca to Cody line is difficult to find because of the remote location and the abandonment of the Toluca to Warren segment early in the Twentieth Century.



Progress on the Black Hills extension of the SMRA layout is progressing. The photographs show the latest improvements. All of the electrical shorts in the track work appear to be eliminated. Now the electrical switch machines need to have the wiring completed to make the track work operational. Activities to look forward to in Northern Wyoming:

May 1 Division meeting at Casper, WY
 May 22 – 23 Train Show at Cheyenne, WY
 June 3 – 6 RMR Convention at Alamosa, CO

June 3 – 6 Jackalope Days at Douglas, WY
 June 10 – 12 Prototype Modelers meet at Littleton, CO
 Oct 2 Division meeting at Sheridan, WY

The Denver HO Model Railroad Club - Secretary: Rex Beistle

Since February 1968, we have been located in the basement of *The Colorado Railroad Museum* in Golden, Colorado. We host a monthly open house the first Thursday of every month from 7-9PM. Stop by to watch the trains run or talk trains and model railroading; you might find a place you would like to be a part of. The Museum does not charge admission for Thursday evening visits to The Denver HO Club. The Denver HO Club is open every Thursday evening from 7-9PM. Thursday evenings other than operations and open house nights are work nights and visitors are welcome then as well. The Colorado Railroad Museum is open seven days per week the year round, except for Thanksgiving Day, Christmas and New Year's Day. Contact us via our web site at www.DenverHOModelRRClub.org

Upcoming Events

June 3-6 - Tracks to Alamosa Convention - US Mail: Tracks to Alamosa, % Richard Hunter, 832 Geneva Street, Aurora CO 80010 Web site: www.TracksToAlamosa.org E-mail: tracksalamosa@ecentral.com

September 25 – Silver San Juan Division meeting in Durango - schmudde@frontier.net

For those of you living in the Denver area, there will be an opportunity in June to attend a Prototype Modelers Meet. Check out their web site. rockymountainprototypemodelers.org

If your division or local club has future events planned, send the information to the editor.