



ADDENDUM 1

For those receiving the emailed copy of the Rocky Mountain Region Callboard, from time to time, as pertinent and timely information for our membership is received, we will publish Addendums to the current issue.

Mainlines to Cheyenne - 2005 RMR-NMRA Convention Contest

Michael Comand, RMR Contest Chairman (Email: RMRCONTST@AOL.COM)

Ladies and Gentlemen:

This year's Rocky Mountain Region convention in Cheyenne is fast approaching and I wanted to take this opportunity to remind the RMR-NMRA members of the convention contest. I believe last year's contest in Denver was a resounding success with over 40 fine entries. I would like to at least equal, if not surpass, that number this year. To help achieve that goal the Division Challenge Cup is up for grabs and the popular vote category of the contest has been expanded.

The Division Challenge was started at last year's convention with the Northern Colorado Division taking home the Cup. This year the winning division has the chance to add their name to the trophy and to display it for one year. The only two criteria for entering something in this category is: 1) The entry has to be entered on behalf of a division (at least two members of the division must have worked on it) and 2) the size of the entry is limited to eight square feet in area with no restriction on height. It can't get much simpler than that.

As I mentioned above, the popular vote category has been expanded. Besides the Division Challenge and Member's Choice Best of Show categories, there will be six new additions to the popular vote segment of the contest. These are: Motive Power (all types), Rolling Stock (revenue and non-revenue including caboose), Structure, Display, Photo, and Youth (17 and under).

The popular vote categories are in addition to the regular contest that follows NMRA judging criteria. The regular contest will consist of the following categories: Steam Locomotive, Diesel & Other Locomotives, Traction, Passenger Cars, Freight Cars, Caboose, Non-revenue, Structure, On-Line & Off-Line, Displays (Diorama) On-Line & Off-Line, Modules, and Photo (B&W Model and Prototype, Color Model and Prototype).

Finally, I wanted to talk about volunteering to be a contest judge. Along with having plenty of entries, judges are needed in order for this to be a successful contest. How many judges are necessary and how much time will it take? At least ten judges who can commit several hours of their time. (I cannot give an exact amount of time since it depends on the number of entries.) If just one person from each division shows up to volunteer we should have more than enough judges. What are the benefits of being a contest judge? Lunch which will be provided by the host division, volunteer points towards the MMR Volunteer Achievement Award, the opportunity to give something back to the RMR-NMRA (especially if you are an MMR), and finally, the feeling of contributing to a successful contest. You don't have to be an experienced judge to participate, but model building experience will be beneficial. Most important of all is just being committed to fairly judging the models and/or photos.

Well, that is it in a nutshell. I hope to see you all there in Cheyenne and to renew old friendships from last year's convention. (If you have any questions regarding the contest, please feel contact me at the email address above.)

New Electronic Postmaster

Due to advancing cancer, Al Howard will be passing the reigns of control of the email addresses for the Callboard to Chris Fallis shortly. Chris will continue to update and improve the system we now have of sending the Callboard out electronically to as many members as we can. By doing this, the RMR has been able to and will continue to be able to provide Callboards to all our membership. The cost of printing and postage would have meant that the Callboard and the communications it provides would, at best, been sporadic. Currently, other than the man hours (and some pretty extreme effort) it takes some of our members to get information for the Callboard and then for Dick Hunter to gather all the information he can get from the Board, Divisions, and Membership and the few hours it takes to keep the electronic list up to date, there is no cost to the membership. We appreciate Estes On-Line hosting both the Web Site and Secure Mailing program for our RMR at no cost. We encourage anyone of our membership who need a paid web host for their business, or if they know anyone who needs one, to contact Lee Lasson (lee@on-line.com) to see if his services will fit your business needs.

News from Al Howard

First, I want to thank all the membership for the encouragement and help in getting both the Web Site and Secure Mailing System up and running so smoothly. I especially want to thank Don Strait and Dick Hunter, for if they had not taken the ball at the time they did, what we have now just wouldn't be there.

As my cancer continues to advance, my participation much longer looks to be impossible. I want to thank both Ken Bianchi and Chris Fallis for taking over the Callboard and Postmaster's jobs. As soon as I can

get Chris up and going, my need will cease to exist and I know that both processes will not only continue, but will continue to improve.

So, when you have anything of interest from Photographs to Stories that you would like to share with the membership, don't hesitate to contact Dick Hunter for Callboards and Ken Bianchi for inclusion on the Web pages. Any input makes their jobs easier. Good input makes their jobs really easy. Great input not only makes the jobs easy, but fun. Divisions keep feeding information about the Division. Individuals, either feed information via the Division, or send it directly. I know that in addition to hearing how well they are doing, both Ken and Dick like to have input. As for the email of the Callboard. Always push that. My goal was to have 75% of our membership receiving the Callboard by the end of this year. Looks to be a little lofty now, but if you know any member of the region who can but is not receiving Callboards electronically, please get them signed up. And it also really will help Chris every time that someone changes their email address, he is told about it.

Finally, for Divisions, if there are NMRA members who are unable to get the Callboard electronically (i.e. no internet or very slow connection) and the Division meets monthly, lets see if we can take a copy sent to one of the Division members, either photo copy or print a copy for those unable to get it electronically, and deliver it that way. Then, we should be able to remove those members from the snail mail listing and continue to save printing and postage rates. It is important that all members of the NMRA get the Callboard. Lets just look for alternative ways other than using Uncle Sam's Postal Service and the printing costs that are associated with it. If we could get everyone to get the Callboard either electronically direct, via the web, via the Division, or via another member, then not only do the costs drop but the quality can and will rise dramatically.