

January/February 2014

Cleveland Prototype Tours



If Santa was a bit of a Scrooge with regards to the hobby, why not give yourself a gift of a Prototype Tour at the 2014 Cleveland Convention? The convention committee has posted a schedule for all the confirmed tours at <http://2014cleveland.org/prototype.htm>. Registration will start shortly after the beginning of the year. Here's how you'll be kept busy all week:

Monday

[Ashtabula Carson & Jefferson RR](#)

[Reichard Industries Inc. / Cherry Valley Coke Ovens](#) / [Youngstown Steel Museum](#)

Tuesday

[Cleveland Track Material](#)

[Cleveland Union Terminal](#)

[Ohio Locomotive Works](#)

Wednesday

[Ages of Steam Roundhouse](#) / [Warther Museum](#)

[Cuyahoga Valley Scenic RR & Facility Tour](#)

Thursday

[Cleveland RTA Rail & Shops Tour](#)

[General Electric Locomotive](#)

[Mad River & Nickel Plate RR Museum](#)

Friday

[Charter Steel Inc.](#)

In addition to the schedule information about what you'll see and do on each tour is also posted on the convention website. Don't miss

A few words from the President



In my last column, I outlined a number of initiatives and where we stand on those. I received far more responses than normal, with many supportive messages. By far, the sale of Headquarters building to the Tennessee Valley Railroad Museum (TVRM) garnered the most reaction. Of the over-70 comments received by deadline, only three were opposed. The majority of our members understand that after 30 years and changes in conditions and technology, the large building on Cromwell Road was no longer vital to our needs. How wonderful that it fulfills the needs of our neighbor, the TVRM. The building will continue to honor all of you who helped build it so many years ago and continue to serve railroading. A fitting tribute. Like some of you, I felt a pang at the change but know in my heart it is the right thing to do as we go forward. As with Bob Bast's basement, the NMRA's "home" for many years, Cromwell Road served our needs and now enjoys a new life with TVRM.

Please note our new address in Soddy Daisy, a suburb of Chattanooga. Our office has moved and the post office box insures we will receive all of our mail, even on holidays and weekends. Our CAO Jenny and crew enjoy their new space and are back at work. Jenny and CFO Frank Koch made the transition seamless. They all deserve our thanks.

The Gallery Exhibit project at the California State Railroad Museum, (CSRM), continues to move forward as well. We hope to have it open this year. Ambitious, but do-able. We have selected Displayworks of Irvine California as our fabricator. At press time, we were awaiting the final paperwork from the CSRM to get started. Although we have raised over \$500,000 in pledges and donations, not all pledges have been redeemed and we need more money to complete this project. We always estimated it would cost between \$500-750,000 to complete/implement. The contract is for \$500,000 but that only includes final design and fabrication. A variety of costs are not included. Thus, we still face a formidable challenge to meet this goal. You may have already received a letter asking for that help; if not, you'll receive it shortly. You have been very generous. We have sufficient funds to start, but we do not have the money to finish. Please help us even if you already have. By the way, that includes me. I pledged \$1,000 and will send more. Help us show the best in model railroading to over 600,000 visitors a year. Help us keep this hobby vibrant and healthy. This is your chance to be a part of preserving our hobby.

Nothing new to report on the Kalmbach Library move but all continues to look positive. Again, we await final paperwork from the CSRM. I am very excited as

out, space is limited!

Department News:

EduTRAIN™

The newest initiative within the Education Department is the EduTRAIN™ Program. The primary goal of the program is to create a collection of clinics (courses) of consistent quality and format that can be utilized by Regions and Divisions throughout the NMRA.

The vision is to make available 'turnkey' clinics that can easily be presented by individuals other than the original author and that cover a wide range of topics of varying difficulty. These will cover all aspects of model railroading from kit building to scenery, from layout construction to electronics, and from track laying to operations. The clinics will include traditional presentations as well as demo labs and hands on (Make and Take) workshops. Once operational, the clinics included in the EduTRAIN™ Program will be available through the NMRA's website at www.nmra.org.

It should go without saying that the Program is not intended to replace the many fine clinics currently being presented around the Regions and Divisions, but rather to provide the Regions and Divisions access to clinics that they might not otherwise be able to present to their members.

The Program is being headed up by Bob Blake, President of the Michiana Division. Bob and his Committee will be presenting information sessions on EduTRAIN™ at the National Convention in Cleveland this summer and at various Regional Conventions throughout the upcoming year. He will also be submitting an article about the Program to NMRA Magazine, so stay tuned.

[Bruce De Young, Manager](#)

Tools, jigs, fixtures and the Achievement Program



Some of the AP categories require scratchbuilding some of the elements. The definition of

we all will benefit from having not only continued access to our own collection but to the huge collection of the CSR library. Since most requests come from emails or phone calls, there should be no disruption or change. We will have a designated person to serve our members as we currently have with Headquarters. Another "win-win" for the NMRA.

Those items plus many more are keeping us all busy. The BOD and leadership meet in February for our "mid-year" board meeting. You will be reading a lot more from that meeting. Those are my thoughts; what are yours?

[Charlie Getz](#)

NMRA President

Mid-Year board meeting in February



The mid-year Board of Directors meeting will be held in Las Vegas, NV. on February 14, 15, and 16. The location has yet to be determined. The Budget and Operations meeting will begin at 2:00pm on Friday, February 14th, and the Board will be in caucus that evening (Board and invited guests only). The regular BOD meeting begins at 9:00 a.m. on

Saturday, February 15 and is scheduled to run until late afternoon on Sunday, February 16th. All members are invited to attend the open sessions. Watch www.nmra.org for the announcement of the meeting location.

NMRA Sells HQ Building to Tennessee Valley Railroad Museum



It is now official. The NMRA sold the Headquarters Building to the Tennessee Valley Railroad Museum on December 31, 2013 for the sum of \$900,000 less part of the closing expenses. We now have liquid assets backing our major commitments (Life Fund, future year dues and subscriptions, and other future commitments) rather than the non-liquid

"brick" value of the building. This concludes a plan that has been discussed in the magazine since before 2007, but the timing and circumstances were never favorable or attractive until now.

In January, 2013, TVRM unexpectedly approached the NMRA and asked if we might consider selling the building to them as they had a need for more space and our building would meet their needs...and they had the right of first refusal if we were to sell. Between January and July, The President of TVRM and the NMRA CFO negotiated terms and conditions and TVRM made a formal purchase offer in July, 2013. One of the common conditions was that the closing would occur at or before the end of 2013 so that TVRM could negotiate the best financing for multiple property purchases along Cromwell Road.

Once the NMRA BOD accepted the formal offer, the NMRA CAO and CFO started the transition process. Our CAO found a location with both office and storage space in the same building about 20 miles north of the Cromwell Road location. It is in a growing part of Chattanooga, happens to be more convenient for our staff, and we are in a space that will cost less than our total cost for the Cromwell location.

The HQ staff began an orderly process of moving the offices without disruption,

scratchbuilt is clear: "The term 'scratchbuilt' carries the implication that the builder alone has accomplished all of the necessary layout and fabrication (starting with 'basic shapes') which establish the final dimensions, appearance, and operating qualities of the scale model."

Common basic shapes are scribed materials, embossed materials, scale-sized material, and other materials used as starting materials. In the past several years, this definition has been logically extended to include commercial shingles, rivets, and NBW castings as basic shapes. Decals have always been exempt parts, and the new textured decals with rivets and weld lines are exciting developments for all modelers. Note that commercial assemblies like window castings and cast wall sections with windows or doors are not considered basic shapes and are not considered scratchbuilt parts.

The requirements intentionally make no mention of how the fabrication is to be accomplished or what tools can be used - as long as the modeler does the work. We are all familiar with the common aluminum or wood miter box used for ensuring accurate angled cuts and the "Chopper" used for making both straight and angled cuts. We all use rotary tools with attachments and drills for accurate holes. We even make molds so we can duplicate parts when we need many of the same thing. We all use jigs and fixtures to build trestle bents or multiple identical car under frames. Times have changed and there are new tools available that are still just tools.

Broadly available commercial track fixtures, laser cutters, and 3-D printers are all more recent tools that impact how we model. I've been using track fixtures for over 25 years since I built a jig to ensure all my bench-built frogs and turnouts were the same and met the NMRA standards. Today, there are a variety of jigs, templates, and fixtures to assist us in building track from rail. One of the most commonly known is "Fast Tracks" but there are several other well-known products that are also excellent. They are all acceptable. The modeler still has to measure, file, and install everything correctly or it won't work.

Laser cutters and 3-D printers are becoming more accessible to all of us. As long as the modeler writes the code that determines the

the Library collections so they were still accessible, the online archive material, and the large Museum collection that includes everything from layouts to posters. We sorted, organized, and moved a bit at a time so that there would be no service disruptions and minimal cost. Today, after four months, we are completely moved into our new offices and plan to stay there for many years...or until conditions again change significantly and warrant another option.

[Frank Koch, NMRA CFO](#)

100% club makes "Model Railroad Magic" in Atlanta



On Saturday, Dec. 7, 2013, one of the SER's Piedmont Division clubs, the North Atlanta Rail Barons (NARBs), a 100% NMRA club, followed NMRA National's "Build A Memory" layout concept with their own "Model Railroad Magic" demonstration in conjunction with a Home Depot store in Woodstock, GA, an Atlanta suburb.

In only three and a half weeks a determined and dedicated group led by NARB members Walt Liles, Howard Goodwin and Perry Lamb, built not only a completed demonstration layout, but another which was purposely displayed as "under construction." They also solicited and received material and product donations from Home Depot, Athearn, Bachmann, Blue Ox Trains, Scenic Express, Signarama, Trainmaster Models hobby shop, Woodland Scenics and additional support from the Piedmont Division.

An estimated 200-300 morning shoppers visited the store, many stopping to ask questions and to accept free NMRA informational handouts. Both Home Depot and the NARBs agreed "Model Railroad Magic" was a success and well worth the effort to publicly demonstrate and share the fun of model railroading in time for the holidays. The completed 4' x 4' HO scale layout was donated in memory of Michelle Lamb to the Wellstar Hospital Foundation in Atlanta.

You can see a FoxNews story about "Model Railroad Magic" at <http://www.myfoxatlanta.com/story/24233442/model-trains-bring-sick-children-joy>.

NFR members promote NMRA at Trainfest

A group of 32 Niagara Frontier Region members drove from Ontario to Milwaukee (a 15-hour drive) to support the NMRA at the annual November "Trainfest," one of the largest train shows in the country. The group ran "Modelers' Corner" in which they built models while talking to the crowds passing by. Visitors got great tips and pointers on a wide range of subjects, along with a healthy dose of NMRA information. The group also presented hourly clinics to groups of up to 100 on a variety of subjects.

News Highlights



NMRA Conventions

[Jul 13-20: National Convention, Cleveland, OH](#)

dimensions of the parts, they are considered scratchbuilt. If the machine operator, and not the modeler, makes changes to the code, then the part fails on the "builder alone has determined the part's characteristics" definition of scratchbuilt.

These new tools give us more options and more flexibility to increase our skills and our modeling prowess. How we use them and all our other tools and methods determines how well our models turn out and not what specific tools were used. We may not have our own laser cutters or 3-D printers but they can be accessed through the internet and at some local schools. Remember that some skeptics once believed that computers would only ever be available in the very largest companies in limited numbers and never reach the mass market. So it goes with tool advancements. They keep getting better and we will take advantage of them to build more models. Just remember that tools are OK and are not part of the scratch building criteria.

[Frank J. Koch, NMRA AP](#)

*Frank will continue this discussion of AP requirements in the next issue of the **NMRA eBulletin**.*

Did you forget to renew?



We're sending NMRA eBulletins to members who may have forgotten to renew in the last 6 months. So just because you're receiving this doesn't mean you're not overdue! Check your membership card for your expiration date!

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Editors:

[Gerry Leone](#) and [Chuck Diljak](#)

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Master Model Railroaders

521: Larry K. Smith, MCR

522: Dick Roberts, PSR

523: Michael Tylick, NER

524: Glenn Farley, PNR

525: Jim Gore, SR



In Future Issues of *NMRA Magazine*

Making realistic step stripes

NYC Freight House drawings

Now Arriving on Track 1: NMRA EduTRAIN™

A turntable for shops

A technique of current pickup wipers installation

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February 2014 - Convention Extra

TOWN HALL FORUM ON FEB. 16

The NMRA Board of Directors will hold its Winter meeting in Las Vegas on February 14-16. President Charlie Getz will host a special hour-long real-time online "town hall" forum in the evening of Sunday, February 16. All NMRA members are encouraged to log on, ask questions, and make comments. Logon information and all details, including the start time, will be posted on the home page at www.nmra.org within the next two weeks. Please join us!

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Editors:

[Gerry Leone](#) and [Chuck Diljak](#)

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LINKS TO MISSING FORMS FROM CONVENTION INSERT



Many of you have received the February issue of *NMRA Magazine* with the 2014 Convention insert. Because of a printing problem, three registration pages were not printed. These pages included the merchandise order forms for men's and ladies' shirts, convention cars and other items, and the Extra Fare order form for ordering banquet tickets and registering for Modeling With The Masters clinics.

You can register online and purchase any of the items mentioned through the NMRA Company Store without the missing forms. For those that want to print out the forms and mail them in with payment you can follow these links to access and print the forms.

[Merchandise Order Form 1](#)
[Merchandise Order Form 2](#)
[Extra Fare Order Form](#)

Or you can print them from the 2014 Convention website:
<http://www.2014cleveland.org/registration.htm>

Completed forms and payment should be mailed to:

NMRA
P.O. Box 1328
Soddy Daisy, TN 37384-1328

March/April 2014

NMRA Cleveland 2014 Has Gone Mobile!



NMRA Cleveland 2014 has gone mobile using [Guidebook](#)!

We encourage you to download our mobile guide to enhance your experience at NMRA Cleveland 2014. You'll be able to plan your day with a personalized schedule and browse exhibitors, maps and general show info.

The app is compatible with iPhones, iPads, iPod Touches and Android devices. Windows Phone 7 and Blackberry users can access the same information via our mobile site at m.guidebook.com.

To get the guide, you can:

- Download 'Guidebook' from the Apple App Store or the Google Play Store
- Visit <http://guidebook.com/getit> from your phone's browser
- Scan the following image with your mobile phone (QR-Code reader required, e.g. 'Red Laser', 'Barcode Scanner')



The guide will be listed under the "Download Guides" section of the application. The guide will automatically update whenever events are added to the convention calendar.

A few words from the President *Thoughts on the Midyear BOD Meeting*



We recently completed our mid-year meeting and in this column I would like to add to the report below on what came from the meeting. Of course, please understand these reports are not official and the minutes of the meeting, which will be published shortly, are the official record.

An enormous amount of work was accomplished at the mid-year, as the short summary below suggests. Allow me to share my schedule with you to give you an idea of the time involved in a mid-year meeting. Margaret and I drove to Las Vegas on Thursday and on Friday I attended staff meetings at 9 and 10 AM, as well as 2 and 3:30PM, followed by a BOD caucus from 7-10PM. On Saturday we started at 8:45 AM going with breaks until 6:35PM. Sunday, we met for the long range plan from 8:45 AM to 2:30PM. Some returned home Sunday, some on Monday. This leaves little time for socializing and zero time for sightseeing. No complaints, but the 30 or so attendees worked long hours and diligently to accomplish quite a lot.

Our volunteers on all levels are our most important assets. Change due to personal commitments is not unusual. So it was at this meeting. Page Martin, our first Director of Marketing, announced he cannot continue in the post but wants to stay involved. He introduced us to John Parrish, who has an impressive background in marketing, as his replacement. I have named John the Director of Marketing. The good news is that Page will continue as a Vice President of Marketing. Now that is not to be confused with "NMRA Vice-President" but is a title that will assist in getting his card past receptionists. Page set a very high standard for this post and received a well-deserved President's Award in Atlanta.

Clark Kooning, our Nominations Chair, also cannot continue in the post as he is contemplating a run for office. Stephen Priest has graciously accepted temporary assignment of the post but we do need a new volunteer who can take over and has a good network of contacts. "Nominations" is an important job and encouraging that next generation of leadership is very important, though often sadly neglected. If you know of someone, please contact me.

The RAC group elected Steve August, who replaces Stephen Priest, but this is not Stephen's last BOD meeting. The BOD finds it very useful to have the Magazine Editor at the BOD meetings so Stephen Priest is not off the hook. If

In addition, you can follow the convention on Facebook at:

<https://www.facebook.com/#!/pages/2014-Cleveland-NMRA-National-Convention/104553906276358>

Department News:

Marketing Department Report

Page Martin gave the Board a recap of the Marketing Department efforts over the past 12 months. As stated, his goals were to help increase membership, increase the awareness of the NMRA, and increase awareness of what the NMRA does. To that end, Marketing employed publicity releases, grass roots and social media marketing, and some paid advertising.

In the last year the NMRA has received placement and mentions in the annual Walthers catalog, including a form readers can use to purchase an NMRA RailPass membership. In addition, Marketing put on a full-court press for National Model Railroad month (November) by having model railroading stories - written by NMRA members themselves - placed in high visibility news media (both print and broadcast) in over 15 major markets across the U.S. Over a 30-day period, these publicity stories received exposure to over 24 million readers and viewers - the equivalent of about \$4 million in advertising. Seventy-five individuals from 32 Divisions in 13 Regions took part in this campaign.

Also, the NMRA had prominent materials placed in New York City's Grand Central Terminal for its Centennial this past year. Over 32 million people visited the site during the celebration.

Wanted: Social Media Manager

National NMRA Marketing is looking for a member to volunteer as a Social Media Manager. The candidate would work with the Director of Marketing and maintain all social media platforms (Facebook, Twitter, Pinterest, LinkedIn, etc.) If you are interested, please send a one-page qualification letter to: Marketing@hq.nmra.org

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Editors:

the name is familiar, besides editing *NMRA Magazine*, Stephen does a zillion other things such as digitizing photos and documents for the Diamond Club. He will be sorely missed and was a superb member of the BOD. His wife Cinthia continues as *NMRA Magazine* ad manager and is working on her MMR. Their son Joel was the youngest to earn one and Dad has his so...

I also announced the appointment of Bob Ferguson of PCR to head up a new member retention initiative. Bob will be looking at creating and sharing a program of proven retention actions that can be undertaken by Divisions and Regions. We have good success in signing up new members - our RailPass conversion rate to regular membership is over 60%. But we lose far too many members at renewal. Bob has extensive experience in membership matters and I expect great things from him.

One thing that isn't mentioned in the summary in this issue is vertical integration, the legal creation of one tax-exempt (U.S.) National organization with many independent Regions and Divisions all sharing our tax status. This is a desired goal for the entire NMRA. We are at the mercy of the U.S. IRS as our paperwork wends its way through the process. The advantages have been discussed before but are numerous. Each Region/Division controls its programs and funds but gains tax advantages for contributions and in some cases, taxes paid. In recent years, the IRS has increasingly treated model railroad groups or clubs as 501(c)7 social organizations instead of 501(c)3 not-for-profit educational organizations. The latter have tax advantages for U.S. members. We are confident that we will obtain this status for all Regions and Divisions. Again, stay tuned!

Watch for the official minutes and feel free to write with any questions or observations. We love to hear from you. Have you registered for Cleveland yet and the NMRA 2014 convention? This one will be one not to miss with some spectacular tours and clinics planned. Hotels are already filling up, as are the more popular tours so if you have not yet, do not wait too long. I look forward to seeing you there and look for distinctive name tags and events to identify Directors and Officers. We want to speak with you and hear what you have to say. Well, those are my thoughts - what are yours?

[Charlie Getz](#)

NMRA President

Highlights of the Winter 2014 Board meeting

The NMRA Board of Directors held its Winter meeting in Las Vegas, NV, on February 14, 15 and 16. The first day consisted of the Operations and Budget meeting with Department heads, and a closed Board caucus that evening. On Saturday the Board held its regular meeting, which was open to the public, and on Sunday the Board, Officers, and Department heads discussed the goals of "NMRA 2019," the Long Range Plan that is still being crafted. That meeting was also open to the public.

Here are some highlights from the Board meeting. Please note that this is an informal recap and should not be assumed to be definitive. The official meeting minutes will be issued shortly by John Stevens, NMRA Secretary, and published in *NMRA Magazine* and on www.nmra.org.

- **New Europe Region approved** - The Board unanimously approved a contingency motion to accept a new Europe Region into the

[Gerry Leone](#) and [Chuck Diljak](#)

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NMRA. Some of the names needed on a petition were not yet received and/or verified by headquarters at the time of the motion, hence the contingency. When it's official, the new region will have over 100 members from the outset. Atlantic District (AD) Director Kathy Millat worked alongside former AD Director Nobby Clarke to bring this to fruition.

- **Video recording/streaming policy** - The issue of commercial companies recording and/or streaming clinics at NMRA National Conventions was discussed at the Atlanta Board meeting in 2013. At that time a special committee was appointed to investigate alternatives to a temporary policy that had been put in place for that convention. The committee could not agree on a new policy, so at this Winter meeting the Board agreed to adopt the temporary policy as permanent.
- **New Marketing Director** - Marketing Director Page Martin was promoted to Vice President of Marketing, and introduced the new Marketing Director, John Parrish. Page also presented an impressive recap of his efforts over the past year, which can be seen in the "Marketing Department" column at the left.
- **NMRA in the black for 2013** - Chief Financial Officer Frank Koch reported that the NMRA ended last year with a surplus of over \$240,000. He also reported that the NMRA headquarters building sold for almost \$900,000 - a sum that was higher than comparable properties in the area. The deal was a win/win for both the NMRA and the Tennessee Valley Railroad Museum, who would have had to build a new building to accommodate their operations.
- **California State Railroad Museum Display** - Paperwork is continuing on this initiative, which has raised over \$600,000 to date. Currently approvals are being slowed down by governmental entities within the CSRM. The Board would like to remind members to please send in their pledges or contributions if they haven't done so.
- **Kansas City approved for 2018 Convention** - Stephen Priest, *NMRA Magazine* editor and current RAC Director, gave the Board an impressive presentation pitching Kansas City as the location for the 2018 convention. The Board approved the site.
- **Redesigned website nearing completion** - IT Director Ben Sevier reported that the completely revamped NMRA website is nearing completion and will hopefully be ready to go live sometime this summer.
- **L-Gauge standards not approved** - The Board did not approve proposed standards for L-Gauge (aka "Lego"). The Board issued this statement regarding the decision: "The BOD agreed that L-Gauge, as it is called by its fans, is an exciting pathway to scale model railroading and a real asset at the NTS and other train shows. Youngsters especially are enthralled and the skill involved can be amazing. We hope to see an enhanced presence of L-gauge in the NMRA as a SIG. As for adopting an L-gauge standard, we could not because we do not control the standard already established and patented by the major maker of L-gauge trains. In other words, there was nothing to set. When we set a standard, it is available for any manufacturer to use but where the sole standard is someone else's and patented, it is not available for use without permission from the patent holder. We have not adopted a standard without the right for free use of it. So we could not act upon the request from the L-gauge community."
- **Self-certification program ratified** - The Board ratified a self-certification program for standards and conformance, as proposed by S&C Department manager Di Voss.

Region and National Conventions



[Apr 25-27: North Central Region, Toledo, OH](#)

[Apr 30-May 4: Pacific Coast Region, San Luis Obispo, CA](#)

[May 2-4: Thousand Lakes Region, Sioux City, IA](#)

[May 15-18: Midwest Region, Schaumburg, IL](#)

[Jul 13-19: National Convention, Cleveland, OH](#)

Master Model Railroaders



526: Alain Kap, BR

527: Bob Robbins, NER

528: Kevin Surman, NER

529: Charles D. Harmon, PCR



March/April 2014 Addendum

Welcome to this **NMRA eBulletin** March/April 2014 Addendum. There were a few important news items that came up immediately after the last issue was mailed, so we're including those in this special issue.

European Region approved

At the time the March/April *NMRA eBulletin* was mailed, headquarters was still checking the paperwork on the proposed new European Region. Since that time, the paperwork has been approved. So welcome the new European Region into the NMRA family!

Former Atlantic District Director Nobby Clarke will be the temporary chair of the Region.

Don't forget the NMRA eBay Giving Program!



Remember to name the NMRA your charity of choice when you're selling items on eBay. It's easy to do, doesn't cost anything, and generates additional income for us!

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Editors:

[Gerry Leone](#) and [Chuck Diljak](#)

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NOTICE OF 2015 ELECTIONS



The following NMRA Officers and Board of Directors positions are open for election in 2015:

1. President
2. Vice President, Administration
3. Vice President, Special Projects
4. Eastern District Director
5. Pacific District Director, and
6. At-Large North America Director

Please check Article III, paragraph 12, of the NMRA Executive Handbook (EHB) located at http://www.nmra.org/national/organization/nmra_organization.html for the extent of the districts affected. Qualifications for candidates are listed in the EHB.

All submissions of candidate's names for consideration by the Nomination Committee for all offices except Pacific District Director shall be submitted to Stephen Priest, temporary Chairman of the Nominations Committee, nmra@pairedrail.com, no later than June 15, 2014.

All submissions of candidate's names for consideration by the Pacific District Director Nominations Committee shall be submitted to Sam Mangion, Chairman of the Pacific District Director Nominations Committee, mangion2@bigpond.com, no later than June 15, 2014.

Candidates may wish to run for these positions by petition and not be subjected to the decisions of the appropriate nominations committees. Requirements for submitting by petition are contained in the EHB. All submissions by petition shall be received by the Secretary NMRA no later than July 31, 2014.

MEETINGS & TRAIN SHOW PERSONNEL CHANGE

We received the following information from Charlie Getz, NMRA President:

"For the past year, Jim "Lumpy" Lupfer has been Department head for M&TS and has done a great job in a very demanding role. At the mid-year BOD meeting we

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discussed that job and its unrelenting requirements and Lumpy advised he felt it best to step down. I asked him to reconsider but respect his decision. Lumpy was a pleasure to work with and a consummate professional.

"Bob Amsler has kindly agreed to step in as the new Department head of M&TS, his former role. Because of my concern that no volunteer undertake two major roles and as Bob is our indispensable attorney, he has agreed to treat the position much as the Department head of Publications does, overseeing the work of the managers, setting policy and acting as point person for the Host Committees. Working for him will be Ray DeBlieck as Convention Manager and Ed Slintak as Ass't thereto, along with Mark "Fuzzy" Shafer as NTS Manager with Tom Draper helping. Tom will be winding down and he has been a tremendous asset to M&TS over literally decades.

"This team brings years of experience and I will announce these changes in the May issue of the magazine as April is already being finalized. I sincerely thank Lumpy for all he has done and thank Bob, Ray, Ed, Fuzzy and Tom for all they are doing.

"So in sum:

Bob Amsler - Department Manager
Ray deBlieck - Convention Manager
Ed Slintak - Ass't Convention Manager
Mark Shafer - NTS Manager
Tom Draper - Floor Manager
Frank Koch - Treasurer
Jenny Hendricks - Admin Contact

"Thanks, everyone, and on to Cleveland!"

Charlie

Additional Region Convention

(Please note that we only run convention dates that occur within 3 months of the NMRA eBulletin publication date.)

[May 2-4 - Niagara Frontier Region, Niagara-On-The-Lake, ON](#)