



# The FUSEE



Volume 56 Number 4

www.thousandlakesregion.org

Summer 2010

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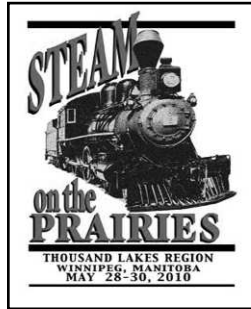
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## We steamed (and stormed) through the prairies!

By Paul Ullrich



Every year, I like to do something I've never done before, just to challenge myself. In 2008, I installed a toilet. In 2009, I accepted the position of Convention Director for the TLR's 2010 convention.

Both of these tasks had their challenges and pitfalls. If you did something wrong doing either of these things, there was a very good chance that you could wind up covered with something wet and stinky.

Thankfully, on the first task, I had my father-in-law to guide me through it, instructing me on the phone from Queens, NY, while I struggled in my bathroom in Winnipeg.

On the second task, I had a great organizing committee and many volunteers who were all dedicated to making this convention a success! And succeed we did! With a total of 146 registrants, this was the largest TLR convention we've had in over five years! We held a dozen clinics, and had 20 layout hops!

We didn't get stinky, but we sure got wet! Over four inches of rain fell that weekend. It was a record breaking, once-in-a-lifetime storm, the worst one we've had in 50 years! There was a total of 13 hours of thunderstorms on Friday and Saturday. That's a six month supply of thunderstorm hours in one weekend!



Gerry Miller

The Steam on the Prairies Convention Committee (l to r): Roger Kiendl (No. 1 Northern Secretary), Ron Einarson (NMRA Canada President), Paul Ullrich (Convention Director), Dennis Rietze (No. 1 Northern Superintendent) and Sid Greenstone (Registrar for 'Steam on the Prairies').

Underpasses turned into swimming pools. Farmers' fields were turned into lakes. Dozens of trees were uprooted. Over 500 basements were flooded. There were power outages in many parts of the city, and many traffic lights were knocked out of commission. Some of the city's pumping stations failed. The Red River rose over ten feet.



Gerry Miller

However, we had a great view of the thunderstorm as we watched it from the passenger cars of the Prairie Dog Central Railway. You rarely get a chance to witness a thunderstorm of that magnitude across the broad, flat plain of the Canadian prairie! We also found out first-hand

**"Convention" continued on page 5**

# Everyone enjoy the convention? I sure did!

I hope everyone enjoyed “Steam on the Prairies” in Winnipeg as much as I did. The weather was not the best, but Paul and his crew did an excellent job under the circumstances. My wife Peggy and I did get over to ride on the Assiniboine Valley Railway before the Board meeting Friday night. She had such a good time there, (and I have witnesses) that she said I should put one of these in our back yard. I think I’ll stay with HO; my back yard isn’t big enough for an oval in that scale.

In 2011 the TLR will be heading south to Dubuque, IA. Mark your calendar for May 20 - 22, 2011. The new Southeastern Division is planning a fun time for all.

In 2012 the Dakota Southeastern will be hosting in Sioux Falls. A comment was made about possibly going back to the Twin Cities in 2013. It’s great to have enthusiastic people investing their time and talent for the good of the TLR.

The elections were held at the general membership meeting on Sunday. Alan Saatkamp, President, resigned to take over THE FUSEE editorship this fall. Jim Bernier, Contest Director, and Jay Davis, Secretary, have had

their five year terms expire. Paul Ullrich and I had our one year term up for re-election. This put five positions up for election with seven candidates running. The result was something a bookie in Vegas would have wanted to put odds on! Jay Manning outdistanced the other four candidates by one vote. Tied with the same amount of votes were Paul Ullrich, Paul Gerry, Mike Engler, and myself.

Your new Board of Directors are Gerry Miller, President; Paul Ullrich, V.P.; Paul Gerry, Secretary; Jay Manning, Convention Director; Mike Engler, Contest Director; and our two returning members are Dave Hamilton, Treasurer, and Gerry Leone, MMR, Public Relations.

I would like to thank Tim Lynn and Scott Nesbit for their enthusiasm in running for the BOD. I would also like to thank Jim and Jay for their five years of service to the TLR.

As summer arrives many of us have other activities that slow our model railroading. One of my favorites is raifanning so, as I am heading out the door with camera in hand, I hope you all have a safe summer. 📷

## TUNNEL VISION

by Editor Gerry Leone, MMR

# So...what good is a Region, anyway?

Ok, so answer me this: what does a Region do besides put on a convention?

This is a question I’ve asked myself many times. “What do we do? What are we supposed to be doing?” I’m not sure I’ve ever given myself a very good answer.

I was a member of the NMRA back in the late ‘70s and early ‘80s, but never participated in any Division or Region activities. I only got active in the Twin Cities Division in 2001, and in the TLR in 2003. Point is, I don’t have a good historical answer to those questions. Maybe “back in the day” the Region was more critical than it is today because, back then, communication wasn’t what it is today. Maybe it was the only way to get the word spread from National to Divisions. Maybe the Region was the messenger. I can’t say for sure. Sounds reasonable, though.

Today the NMRA sends out a monthly electronic “newsletter” to each of the Region Presidents and Division Superintendents. So all of them know what’s going on almost as quickly as it happens. Between email and the internet, all of us can stay fairly well connected to everyone else, and to National as well.

So where does the Region fit into all of this? Are we really just here to have conventions?

I came home from Winnipeg and pondered that question for a while. And here’s what I came up with:

If the only purpose of the Region is to have a convention, is that so bad?

The TLR is one of the largest geographic Regions in the NMRA. We’re a vast region with concentrated pockets of population scattered here and there, and a lot of beautiful, natural “nothing” in between. The annual TLR convention is the one time every year when all of us (or at least 100 of us) have a chance to get together, to joke around, to shake hands and swap stories and see friends we haven’t seen for a year or more.

And what’s wrong with that?

Ask most NMRA members, and chances are they’ll say one of the greatest benefits of NMRA membership is “fellowship.” It’s what binds us all together, makes us one big family.

So, again, if the TLR’s only purpose in life is to provide an annual conduit for that fellowship, is that so bad? I don’t think so at all.

Hope you had fun at this year’s family reunion. Looking forward to seeing everyone at next year’s. 📷

## We have an editor! Yay!

Well, ok, sure we *already* have an editor. Me. But after six years I’m throwing in the towel with the Fall issue, and we’ve been looking for a new one for the better part of a year. We found one... right under our noses. He happened to be President of the TLR: Alan Saatkamp. Alan has resigned as president and will be taking over the reins for the Winter issue. I know he’ll do a great job. He’s already been putting out a quarterly newsletter about his own layout, *Prairie Ponderings*, so he’s got experience under his belt. Thanks for stepping up to the plate again, Alan! The whole Region truly appreciates it! - Gerry

### THANKS!

Contributors to this issue (in order of the number of vowels in their name):

Alan Saatkamp, Paul Ullrich, Terry Davis, Gerry Miller, Marg Ullrich, Ken Zieska and Jay Davis

**Next issue’s deadline:  
August 10, 2010**

# Five new Board members elected at convention



In a balloted general election, Thousand Lakes Region members at the General Meeting in Winnipeg elected five new members to the Board of Directors of the TLR for 2010/2011. Ordinarily the election would have called for the election of four new members, but president Alan Saatkamp, who had one year left in his two-year term, resigned to become FUSEE editor (see story below).

The new Board is (from left to right):

Paul Ullrich, Vice President  
Jay Manning, Convention Director  
Gerry Miller, President  
Gerry Leone, Public Relations  
Mike Engler, Contest Director  
Dave Hamilton, Treasurer  
Paul Gerry, Secretary

You'll find contact info for each of them on page 11. Don't hesitate to call or email any of them with questions or comments!

## Final Thoughts (from the Caboose?)

By Alan Saatkamp  
Former TLR President,  
Soon-to-be-FUSEE Editor

After that headline, the rest of this article may seem redundant. It provides my not-so-secret next step serving the TLR. Gerry Leone's resignation as editor after six faithful years leaves large shoes to fill, so I'll give it a shot as Fusee editor. Those of you who attended Winnipeg know that my final acts as president were to appoint myself as his replacement, then fire myself as president.

The Region is in good hands with our newly constituted Board of Directors. Gerry Miller got both feet wet (didn't we all in Winnipeg?) as VP this past year; organized the new Southeastern Division (not to be confused with Dakota Southeastern Division in South Dakota) and did a President's Award winning job. Paul Ullrich capably executed the Winnipeg convention and moves to VP where he will serve as liaison with our Division superintendents. And by the way, congrats to new superintendents Dennis Reitz and Doug Clarke who respectively replace Ron Einarson of the No. 1 Northern and Doug Harding of the PLD (Doug moves to southeastern Iowa this month. Good luck to him and thanks for his efforts.) Paul Gerry (Secretary) and Mike Engler (Contest Director) bring considerable new energy to the Board. Treasurer/webmaster Dave Hamilton (beginning his fifth and final year on the board) and Gerry Leone (Public

Relations guru) are experienced and solid contributors. Newcomer Jay Manning from DSED assumes the role of Convention Director, which will give him good experience working with the Dubuque folks for 2011 prior to Sioux Falls hosting TLR in 2012. Hats off, too, to Secretary Jay Davis and Contest Director Jim Bernier for their five years of dedicated service. Our department chairs, Tom Mauszycki (Historian) and John Hotvet (Achievement Program) deserve a vote of thanks for their continued work to keep the wheels moving also.

These past three years as VP and President went quickly. They enabled me to meet dozens of fellow hobbyists, develop strong friendships, and certainly raise the bar for modeling on my Wisconsin Dakota HO-scale railroad. Clinics, friendly tips, layout tours – every one of those features contributed to my modeling skills and enjoyment of the hobby. As a former "lone ranger" I know how reading a magazine or book worked (not!) helping my modeling efforts. It's the personal contacts through Division and Region participation that make the difference. I hope you'll give it a try, if you're not already a convert.

We'll stay in touch—some of you will receive requests for contributions to THE FUSEE. Your willingness to share what your Division is up to, commit a modeling tip to paper, or entertain our readers with your wit and humor

make THE FUSEE worthwhile. Your contributions further enhance our enjoyment of "the world's greatest hobby."

### New Brass Car Sides Sets

UP 5200-5211 C&NW 6160-6166 Plan 7386 1937 Challenger 56-seat chair car with nurse room, later UP 1502-1523 Club Lounge N-scale sides (#567, \$23.75). HO sides for this UP/C&NW prototype will be produced if we receive a few more reservations. PS 14-4 B&O/KCS/MP Plan 4153 N-scale sides (#528, \$23.75).

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## New TLR Division!


By Gerry Miller  
TLR President

At the Friday Board of Directors (BOD) meeting in Winnipeg, a request to form a new Division was made by a group of NMRA members in the Dubuque, IA area. The Board approved the request and appointed Gerry Miller superintendent.

Thus, the Southeastern Division was born.

This idea started a couple of years ago when we were thinking about starting a model railroad club. After landing the 2011 TLR convention, we decided to check into starting a small Division in Southeastern Iowa.

The boundaries of the Southeastern Division are: all of Dubuque County to the southern-most boundary of the TLR, and Southern Grant County, WI, south of highway 81 to the Illinois border. We decided to start small to keep the driving distance to a half hour from Dubuque.

Officers will be elected, and by-laws drafted and will be presented for final approval there. Our first task will be building a portable layout to take to model train shows. 

## Minutes of the Board and General Membership meetings

### MINUTES OF THE MAY 28, 2010 TLR BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING WINNIPEG, MANITOBA, CANADA

The meeting was called to order at 8 P.M. CDT. Present were Ron Peterson, Terry Davis, Doug Clarke, Jay Manning, Dennis Rietze, Ron Einarson, Duane Durr, Dee Smith, Frank Gerry, Paul Gerry, Tom Matuszycki, Roger Kiendl, Gerry Leone, Jim Bernier, Alan Saatkamp, Dave Hamilton, Gerry Miller, Ron Bodin, Terry Anderson, Paul Ullrich, and Jay Davis.

**Old Business** The meeting started with a motion to approve the minutes as printed in the last FUSEE from the fall Board meeting held at Spirit Lake, IA, by Paul Ullrich and seconded by Gerry Miller. Motion carried.

**President's Report** Alan Saatkamp told the Board that it had been an enjoyable year; getting to know the TLR Board members better. He thanked everyone involved in making the Winnipeg convention a reality. He credited the talented and dedicated Board members for helping make his last year in office a success. Alan mentioned the resignation of Gerry Leone as FUSEE editor thanking Gerry for his work on the Board and as editor. Alan tendered his resignation so that he could take up the position of editor effective as of the Winter issue of THE FUSEE.

**Vice President's Report** Gerry Miller reported that all but one Division had returned its Division certification papers but he was confident that it would be turned in shortly.

**Treasurer's Report** Dave Hamilton handed out a full report of all the Region's finances. He informed the Board that the region still has eight Certificates of Deposit through Wells Fargo.

**Contest Director's Report** Contest Director, Jim Bernier reviewed last year's contest entries and points earned at the Hutchinson convention. He thanked all who had entered the contest over the past five years for their great models and photos.

**Public Relations Director/Fusee editor's Report** Gerry Leone submitted a report for Public Relations. He again put together promotional video for this year's convention and posted it on YouTube. Because of delays in getting video footage of the Assiniboine Valley Railroad and Prairie Dog Central Railroad, the video had to be posted

later than past conventions. The video was viewed approximately 375 times to this date which is 75 more views than last year's Hutchinson convention video has to date. The convention was highlighted in the winter and spring issues of THE FUSEE, with convention articles by Convention Director Paul Ullrich and Ron Einarson.

During his editor report Gerry mentioned handing in his editorship resignation last fall. The fall issue of THE FUSEE will be his final issue. This will conclude six years of editing the newsletter. Alan Saatkamp will take over the editorship, effective on the Winter 2010/2011 issue. Gerry expressed his deep appreciation of Alan's willingness to step in to fill that position and on behalf of the entire Region, he thanked Alan.

Gerry reported that the number of FUSEE subscriptions is at about 265. It's important to note that this is up from 2008/2009 figures of about 230 per issue. This year's spring issue was mailed to all NMRA members within the TLR's boundaries and totaled 510 issues. The Canadian figure jumped from 12 to 57, obviously, because of the convention. THE FUSEE continues to carry paid ads. The Luce Line club purchased a full year's worth of 1/4 page ads, Brass Car Sides has again purchased a year's worth of 1/16 page ads. The Spud Valley Train Show renewed their ad. The Granite City train show has purchased another full year of ads. Fagan's Hobby Shop purchased a year long 1/16 page ad which runs out with the summer issue. One year of ads pays for one issue's printing. The subscription fees pay for printing on the other three issues, with a surplus.

**Convention Director's Report** Paul Ullrich submitted the Convention Director's report. He said he had spent the last year working on this year's convention at Winnipeg. He had a lot of help from many others to whom he thanked and recognized. He hoped that everyone was enjoying the convention so far.

**The Achievement Program Report** was submitted by John Hotvet and presented by Dave Hamilton. This year was a very slow year for the Achievement Program. They only awarded two achievement certificates and no Golden Spikes. Two AP certificates were awarded to Alan

*"Minutes" continued on page 10*

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## 32nd Annual Spud Valley Hobby Show

**Sunday, October 17, 2010**

**9:00 am to 3:00 pm**

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

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

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

**For information, call Don, 701-234-9351**

## “Convention” continued from page 1

that 100- year-old passenger cars have a tendency to leak in a few places.

We were blessed with the occasional dry spells in some of the most important places.



Ted Dyck, the cafeteria's manager came to our rescue. He not only loaned us all of his equipment, but he even cooked all of the burgers, fish and hot dogs for us!

The cafeteria and the chapel weren't in the same building, so we had to assemble a group of volunteers to hastily dispatch the food across the campus.



The rain miraculously stopped just before our extra fare excursions arrived at Portage La Prairie and Lower Fort Garry. The sun even came out when we toured the facilities at the Prairie Dog Central! No rain fell during Sunday's layout hops. There was yet another downpour during the clinics, but we were all inside.

Rain didn't fall on Friday night, but the previous showers had turned the Assiniboine Valley Railway into a swamp. The trains were still running, but the grounds were too sodden to hold our barbecue. Emergency measures had to be taken to feed all of the registrants.



Gerry Miller

The Canadian Mennonite University, where we held the convention, came to the rescue. They allowed us to use their chapel, in which they cleared and set up tables in record time. We packed everything from the AVR in my mini-van and transported it to the campus.

The Campus Hosting Coordinator gave us a basement dorm suite with a kitchenette to prepare some of the food. After moving everything down there, we discovered it was woefully inadequate for our needs, so everything had to be moved to the kitchen of the campus cafeteria.

The real fun began when the man from Denny's Whole Hog showed up with a 185-pound roast pig – on a steel stretcher! We moved it down a multi-leveled staircase, through a narrow hallway, and into an even

narrower corridor inside the basement suite. Then we had to remove it from the dorm, carry it across the campus, and navigate it through a multi-leveled ramp to the cafeteria, which was located on the second floor!

Miraculously, we got everything done on time. There was more than enough food, and there was still plenty of time to ride the trains at the AVR. No one knew of the chaos that occurred behind the scenes. Until now.

We even squeezed in a tour of the grain elevator when the Prairie Dog Central arrived at Warren, MB. The elevator had a large awning right over the station platform, so no one got wet when they got off the train.


The train took us to the Hitch 'n Post restaurant, where we held our banquet. They chartered buses to transport us from the tracks to the restaurant. The only time anyone got wet was when we went from the train to the bus. In yet another severe downpour, we had to cross a deep, soggy gully from the roadbed to the highway.

But no one was complaining once we got to the restaurant. The Hitch 'n Post was a wonderful venue, and they gave us a great meal!

Besides the record-breaking thunder-

storm, we also had a record-breaking number of entries for the model and photo contests. There were so many that the judging went into overtime. Gerry Leone, who put together the PowerPoint presentation of the contest for the banquet, had so much work to do

that he missed the train! However, he did stay high and dry while he drowned his sorrows as he waited for us at the Hitch 'n Post!

Despite the weather, and the many challenges that it created, everyone had a great time. I lost count of how many people came up to me to shake my hand and tell me what a wonderful convention it was. Thanks again to the members of my organizing committee, Ron Einarson, Roger Kiendl, Dennis Rietze and Sid Greenstone, for all of their hard work. It was wonderful working with all of you! 

## 16th Hutchinson Model RR Show

Sat. Sept. 25, 2010

10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

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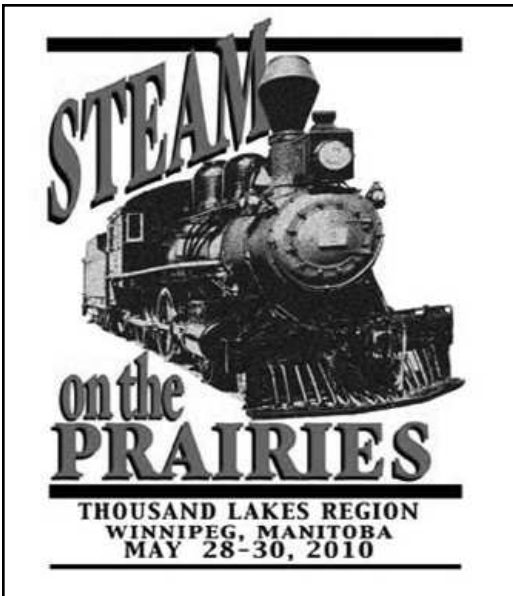
8-foot flea market tables only

\$20 each! Call Mark Brauh:

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# The 2010 Thousand Lakes Region Convention



Gerry Leone

Friday night's dinner (left) was switched to Canadian Mennonite University after torrential rains turned the grounds of the Assiniboine Valley Railway into muck. Small groups of TLR members were later able to visit, and ride on, this famous railway (below).



Terry Davis

Twelve clinics graced Saturday morning's schedule, including one on scenery making by Suzanne Lemon & Morgan Turney (left), and a turnout scratch-building clinic given by NMRA Canada Director Clark Kooning (right).



Terry Davis



Terry Davis



Terry Davis

The Prairie Dog Central's steam trip was the cornerstone of the convention. After convention attendees were allowed to inspect the shops and equipment, the train left the station at 3:00 and, after traveling to Warren, brought everyone back to a delicious banquet of barbecue beef at the Hitch'n Post.

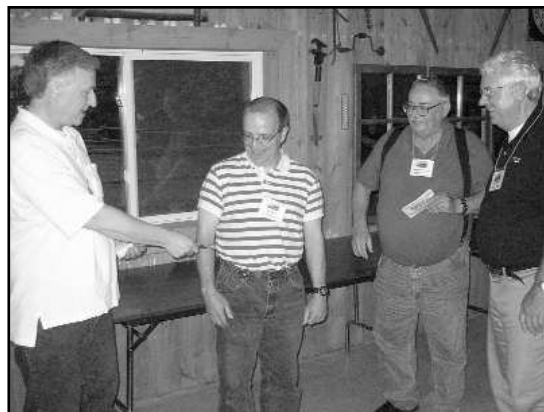


Gerry Leone

Because of a slight miscommunication, newsletter editor Gerry Leone, his wife Renay, and soon-to-be Contest Director Mike Engler arrived at the Prairie Dog Central at 3:15 only to find the proverbial train had left the station. They got to spend a rousing three hours appreciating the country music in the banquet room at the Hitch'n Post before the rest of the members showed up.

*My HUGE thanks goes out to Terry Davis and Gerry Miller who took and shared photos of the convention activities I missed.  
- Gerry*

Convention Attendance Grants were awarded to Division recipients at the banquet. At left, president Alan Saatkamp distributes the awards to Nick Andrusiak (No. 1 Northern), Don Carlson (Twin Cities), and Duane Durr (South Red River Valley). At right, Treasurer Dave Hamilton hands the awards to Jay Davis (Prairie Lakes), Bruce Crosby (Minnesota River Valley), and Jay Manning (Dakota Southeastern)

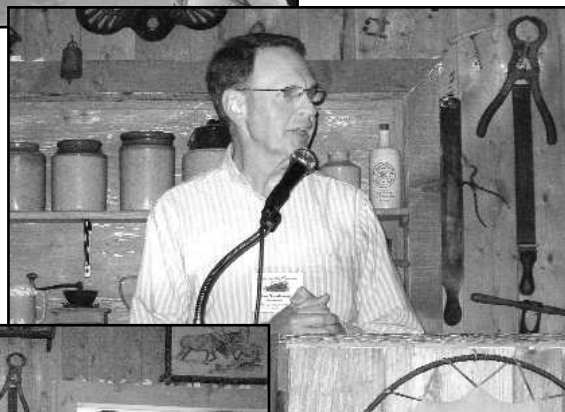


Convention Director Paul Ullrich thanks those who helped plan the convention (below) as the well-fed crowd at the Hitch 'n Post enjoy their barbecue beef dinner (right).



**AWARDS:**  
**President's Award:**  
Gerry Miller  
**Bob Dew Sr. Award:**  
Terry Davis  
Fred Headon, MMR

TLR President Alan Saatkamp (right) gave the President's Award for outstanding service to the Region to Gerry Miller. Fred Headon, MMR, and Terry Davis received the Bob Dew Sr. Award for five years of service on the TLR Board.



## Thanks, everyone!

We had 146 guests at our convention, which was the most we've had in over five years.

Not only did we have registrants from the TLR region, but from all across Canada! This wouldn't have happened if not for the efforts of our partners in the convention, the CN Lines SIG. CN Lines SIG President Al Lill and long time TLR member Nick Andrusiak scheduled their own annual convention to happen in Winnipeg, concurrent with ours. Every CN Lines SIG member who attended that convention also came to our convention, and became NMRA members as well. 1500 registration forms for "Steam on the Prairies" were inserted into a recent issue of CN LINES magazine.

Special thanks should also be given to all of our clinicians, who worked so hard to put on such wonderful demonstrations!

They are: Al Lill, Gerry Leone MMR, John Longhurst, Suzanne Lemon, Morgan Turney, John Morris, Clark Kooning, Alex Campbell, Renay Leone, Paul Ullrich, Ken Goslett, Ian Cranstone, Mike Engler, and Tommy Kucera.


-Paul Ullrich, Convention Director



NMRA Canada Director Clark Kooning (above) recognizes the outstanding contributions of the Canadian NMRA contingent: NMRA Canada President Ron Einarson, NMRA Canada VP and Registrar Don Hillman, former NMRA Canada President Frank Gerry, and NMRA Canada Secretary Dennis Rietze. Once again, the Chinese Auction was a huge hit among members. This year there were over 100 prizes. (right).



All photos on this page: Gerry Leone

**STEAM**  
  
**on the PRAIRIES**  
 THOUSAND LAKES REGION  
 WINNIPEG, MANITOBA  
 MAY 28-30, 2010

**Model, Photo and Craft Contests**



**Diesel Locomotive**

1st - "VIA F9 B #6604" by Fred Headon, MMR  
 2nd - "CP #5447 SD40-2" by John Longhurst



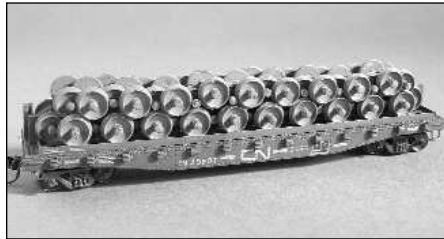
**1st Place Display and Jock Oliphant Craftsmanship Award**

"The Mills at Pino Grande" by Mike Engler



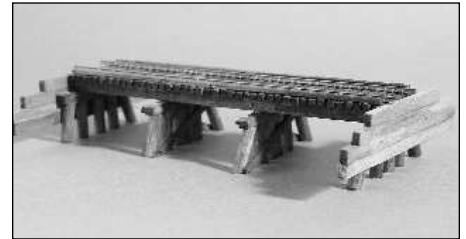
**Freight Cars**

1st - "Von Allmen Pickles." by Tom Mauszycki, MMR  
 2nd - "Defco 81' Dep. Flatcar" by Ron Peterson  
 3rd - "H&LB Boxcar #10" by Ron Einarson



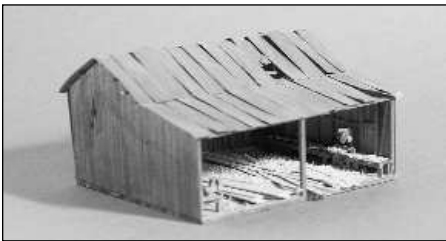
**Non-Revenue**

1st - "CN49507 Wheel Car" by Larry Leavens  
 2nd - "H&LB Gondola #6" by Ron Einarson  
 3rd - "H&LB Condola #3" by Ron Einarson



**On-Line Structure**

1st - "41' Open Deck Trestle #1" by Alan Saatkamp  
 2nd - "60' Open Deck Trestle" by Alan Saatkamp  
 3rd - "41' Open Deck Trestle #2" by Alan Saatkamp



**Off-Line Structures**

1st - "Wood Cutting Shed" by Ron Einarson  
 2nd - "Derelict Farm House" by Ron Einarson



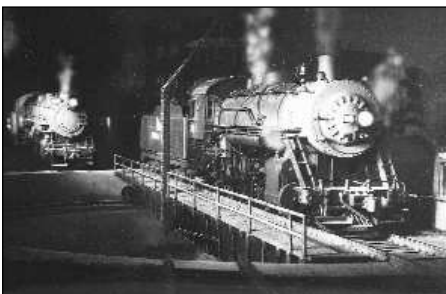
**Black & White Prototype Print**

1st - "IC Mississippi River Bridge" by Gerry Miller  
 2nd - "WC Diesel Service Tracks" by Gerry Miller  
 3rd - "Take the 'A' Train" by Margaret Ullrich



**Color Prototype Print**

1st - "VIA at Uno Trestle" by Larry Leavens  
 2nd - "Winter Sunrise" by Larry Leavens  
 3rd - "Rusty TC&W Wheelsets" by Gerry Miller



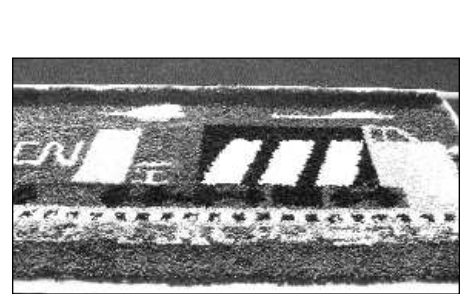
**Black & White Model Print**

1st - "#28 on the Turntable" by Gerry Leone, MMR  
 2nd - "'No Nudity' Railfan Beach" by Terry Davis



**Color Model Print**

1st - "Missed Meet" by Gerry Leone, MMR  
 2nd - "On the V&O" by Frank Gerry  
 3rd - "#28 at Colfax Yard" by Gerry Leone, MMR



**Arts & Crafts**

1st - "Latchhook Rug" by Margaret Ullrich

**Prototype Slide**

1st - "Soo Line at Winona" by Terry Davis  
 2nd - "North Freedom 1385" by Fred Headon, MMR  
 3rd - "Curry Depot" by Terry Davis

**Model Slide**

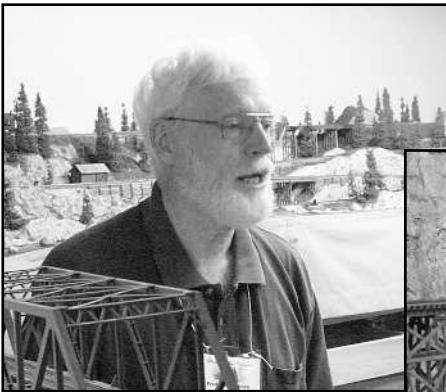
1st - "Milwaukee at Cleveland" by Terry Davis  
 2nd - "Lumberjack" by Fred Headon, MMR  
 3rd - "Shady Oak" by Fred Headon, MMR





Stafford Swain opened up his HO-scale version of the CNR's Whiteshell Division layout one last time during the Sunday layout hops. One of the many highlights of the layout is his award winning, scratchbuilt coaling tower.

All photos on this page: Terry Davis



Fred Headon, MMR, explains some details of his HO-scale late '50s CPR layout. Fred scratchbuilt the impressive trestle, a focal point of the layout



Allen Ferguson (above) showed visitors around his multi-level HO-scale layout that depicts the CPR from 1950 to the 1960s.



George Myers (above right) points out the details of his CPR Central Northern Subdivision O-scale layout to Chuck Durrenberger.



Don Cooper's Cooper Valley Lines, a detailed N-scale layout built along one wall of an apartment, was also on tour.

## That Mysterious Canadian Cookie

Along with enjoying the many clinics and rail hops, out-of-town guests at "Steam on the Prairies" got their first taste of a Canadian delicacy, Nanaimo bars at the Friday night dinner.

They were good sports about it. Maybe all the potato salad and pulled pork lulled them into a sense of security. But, after a few bites, they realized they weren't just eating a chocolate cookie. There was some definite mumbblings - "Coconut? Whipped cream?" - while they ate dessert. They even asked a few locals "What's in this?"

So, to answer their questions, and to add a little something to everyone else's files, here's the recipe.

### Nanaimo Bars

#### Bottom Layer:

- 1/2 cup unsalted butter
- 1/4 cup sugar
- 1/4 cup cocoa
- 1 egg, beaten
- 1 1/4 cups graham wafer crumbs
- 1/2 cup finely chopped almonds
- 1 cup coconut

#### Second layer:

- 1/2 cup unsalted butter
- 3 tablespoons cream
- 2 tablespoons vanilla custard powder (Bird's is available in most stores)
- 2 cups icing sugar

#### Third layer:

- 4 (1 oz.) squares semi-sweet chocolate
- 2 tablespoons unsalted butter

#### Bottom Layer:

Melt first 3 ingredients in the top of a double boiler. Add egg and stir to cook and thicken. Remove from heat. Stir in crumbs, coconut and nuts. Press firmly into an ungreased 8x8 inch pan.

#### Second layer:

Cream butter, cream, custard powder and icing sugar together. Beat until light. Spread over bottom layer.

#### Third layer:

Melt chocolate and butter over low heat or in microwave. Cool. When cooled but still liquid pour over second layer. Chill in refrigerator.

[Marge hand-made tons of these for the dinner Friday night, and they were absolutely delicious.

- Gerry ]

## "Minutes" continued from page 4

Saatkamp, Harrisburg, SD- Association Official and Craig Symington, Thunder Bay, ON- Model Railroad Author. The next year is looking more promising though. Three AP awards have been submitted to National for further processing.

### Division Reports

**Dakota Southeastern** - Jay Manning reported that their Division membership has remained fairly constant in the last year. Last June there was a rail fan picnic at Hills, MN next to the BNSF main line. It brought together members of the DSED, PLD, and Sioux Valley Model Engineers. It was a great day for all and will hopefully become an annual event. Again this past fall DSED hosted a day at the Ronning Branch Library in Sioux Falls. This day included several clinics with special emphasis towards children and Alan Saatkamp's switching layout. This event was attended by over 75 people. In October they had their annual open house tour, which was well attended. November bought the DSED modular layout to participate in the annual, Sioux Valley Model Engineers Society Trains at Christmas.

**Minnesota River Valley** - Terry Davis reported that they have seventeen NMRA members, which is down from about thirty a few years ago. Most who have left opted not to join the NMRA when the issue was enforced. Those remaining are dedicated to maintaining the NMRA affiliation. They gather the second and fourth Saturdays from September to May at the Milwaukee Road Heritage Center in Montevideo, MN, where they are working on an HO Milwaukee Road layout. This is an unofficial Division project. On April 17, they held their annual business meeting, with elections, a silent auction, clinics, and door prizes at the Pizza Ranch in Olivia, MN. The Division invited about seventy-five modelers from the area. They drew 22, more than half of whom were former division members or unaffiliated modelers. Sam Sherman was elected secretary and Terry Davis took on interim editor duties. They plan to move the newsletter to PDF format for electronic delivery to members with e-mail capability. The Division also selected Bruce Crosby for the \$200 TLR Winnipeg convention grant prize. They said they were planning to do this type of business meeting again in April 2011.

**Prairie Lakes** - Doug Clarke reported that the spring meet was held in Emmetsburg, IA, and was attended by over 100 people. The meet featured over thirty vendor tables. The day was also highlighted by two rail-orientated prototype tours. Doug Clarke was elected to Superintendent after Doug Harding informed the members that he was being transferred to a new church outside of the Division. Jay Davis was elected assistant superintendent. The PLD members held a drawing for those planning to attend the Winnipeg convention and drew Jay Davis' name to receive a \$200 grant to help defray costs of attending the meet. The fall meet is planned for Sibley, IA on October 2, 2010. This will be held in conjunction with the Otter Valley Railroad's 25th anniversary.

**No. 1 Northern** - Ron Einarson reported that they worked with the Winnipeg Model Railroad Club to put on a show that brought 600 people through the door. At their meetings they are working to promote the AP program as well as being a member of the TLR and NMRA. They have about 35 members as of the Winnipeg convention.

**Twin Cities** - Dave Hamilton reported that they are still holding monthly meetings at the Jackson Street Roundhouse. Dave Hamilton put on a clinic about the benefits of and how to obtain AP certificates. Ron Bodin was re-elected as Superintendent. Their newsletter, *The Crossing Gate*, is going digital.

**South Red River Valley** - Duane Durr talked about the 32nd Annual Spud Valley Hobby Show to be held on October 17 at the Ramada Plaza Suites in Fargo, ND.

Alan asked for a motion to accept all board and superintendent reports. A motion was made by Jim Bernier and was seconded by Gerry Leone. Motion carried.

**New Business** Gerry Miller outlined the 2011 convention to be held in Dubuque, IA. Future updates will be in THE FUSEE. It was decided that there would be no monetary split between the TLR and the local Division. The TLR will be responsible for this convention.

Next, Jay Manning made a proposal for a 2012 Sioux Falls convention. He said they wanted to split the costs/profits 50/50 with the TLR. More details to come in THE FUSEE. A motion by Gerry Leone was made to accept the proposal for the 2012 convention. Jim Bernier seconded this. Motion carried.

Then the Board took a look at the 2010 convention grant. There was enough revenue from the TLR CDs that it was used to cover the cost of the 2010 grants awarded to six Divisions. It was ultimately decided that this grant would be continued for the 2011 convention. Other ways for Divisions to receive grants for projects used to help pro-

mote the NMRA were discussed. A motion to continue the grant awards was made by Dave Hamilton. Gerry Leone seconded. Motion carried.

The issue of continuing the reinforcement of NMRA memberships within the TLR's Divisions was discussed. No action was taken at this time.

Gerry Miller of Dubuque, IA, put in a request to form a new Division to be known as the Southeastern Division. He presented the Board with maps laying out the proposed new Division's boundaries. Gerry informed the Board that all affected NMRA members within the Division boundaries were contacted to see if there were any objections to the formation of the new Division but no response was received. 7 NMRA members reside in the proposed area. Two of them are NMRA life members. In September they will hold their first business meeting. Alan appointed Gerry Miller as acting superintendent until formal elections could be held. Paul Ullrich made a motion to accept the new division into the TLR. This was seconded by Gerry Leone. Motion carried.

Frank Gerry said he was working hard to reactivate the Kashabowie Division. The Board expressed their well-wishes on this endeavor.

The Board was contacted around January by a gentleman wanting to know if the TLR was interested in getting involved in a Boy Scout merit badge program. A discussion about this was held and the board decided that this was better suited for the Divisional level than at the Regional level.

Dave Hamilton expressed an interest in the TLR making a donation to the Diamond Club. The Diamond Club is a fundraiser specifically designed to advance the NMRA website in many ways including the digitization of over 100,000 photos and special NMRA member only privileges. A full explanation can be found in the Feb. 2010 issue of *Scale Rails*. Dave asked for a donation of \$750 to be sent from the TLR to help with this. Dave Hamilton made a motion for this proposal and Gerry Miller seconded. Motion carried.

TLR Historian Tom Matuszycki and Jim Bernier proposed the idea of scanning all the photos and documents in Tom's archives. This could be placed on the TLR website. They wanted to see what the Board thought of this idea and with the Board's permission would like to look into it further to see what the cost of having everything scanned would be. A motion to look at the costs of this venture was made by Jim Bernier. Dave Hamilton seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Treasurer, Dave Hamilton reported that the CD's were not bringing in a lot of interest and wanted to know what the Board thought about moving some of the money into other places that would offer higher returns. A discussion was held and people present with financial backgrounds suggested that the CD's would eventually yield higher returns as the economy starts to turn around. A motion to table the rearrangement of finances was made by Gerry Miller. It was seconded by Paul Ullrich. Motion carried.

Gerry Leone mentioned giving the profits of the Winnipeg Convention to the No. 1 Northern Division. A discussion was held in which it was questioned if any profits would be made. This idea was tabled and to be placed on the agenda for the October Board meeting.

Ron Einarson made a motion to adjourn and Gerry Miller seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 10:15 AM CDT.

### MINUTES OF THE MAY 30, 2010 GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING WINNIPEG, CANADA

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 A.M. CDT.

**Old Business:** The meeting started with the approval of the minutes as printed in THE FUSEE. Board of Director reports followed.

Duane Durr made a motion to approve the combined reports of the Board. It was seconded by Ron Einarson. Motion passed.

**New Business:** Elections were held to fill five board vacancies. Nominations were called from the floor by Alan. No nominations were given from the floor. Alan nominated Paul Ullrich, Gerry Miller, Tim Lynn, Jay Manning, Paul Gerry, Mike Engler, and Scott Nesbit. Jim Bernier moved to close nominations. This was seconded by Ron Einarson. Since there were more candidates than openings, ballots were handed out. Gerry Leone and Dave Hamilton counted the ballots. Jay Manning received the most votes, then there was a four-way tie between Paul Ullrich, Paul Gerry, Gerry Miller and Mike Engler. A motion to destroy the ballots was made by Fred Headon and seconded by Frank Gerry.

Jay Manning presented some of the events to be held at the "Rock and Rails" at the Falls convention to be held in Sioux Falls in 2012. More information on this event will be printed in upcoming FUSEEs.

Gerry Leone, NMRA Communications Director, informed the membership of what was happening at National. He explained what the Diamond Club was and mentioned that the Board had approved the motion to donate \$750 to this cause. Gerry also spoke about a rebranding effort to be unveiled during the National NMRA convention. He was unable to give anymore details at this time. Gerry closed with the mention that the National Board was still trying to lower the costs of National Convention registrations. Due to the need to book conventions so far in advance means registrants would not see any changes until after 2013.

Duane Durr moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:30 A.M. Fred Headon seconded. Motion passed.

A caucus was then held to make decisions on the placement of the elected members. Jay Manning, Paul Ullrich and Gerry Miller were elected to two-year terms and Paul Gerry and Mike Engler got one-year terms respectively.

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**Changes of address should be sent to the Treasurer.**

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*Compiled by Gerry Leone, Jim Bernier, and Terry Davis*

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

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

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

**Saturday, 12/11/10, Granite City Train Show, 9 AM - 3:30 PM,** National Guard Armory, 1710 Veteran's Drive, St. Cloud, MN. Admission: \$5, kids 12 and under free. Model and toy trains, accessories, books, videos, collectibles, antique toys, more. Operating displays. For more information, call 320-255-0033, email [edwardolson@cloudnet.com](mailto:edwardolson@cloudnet.com), or visit [www.granitecitytrainshow.com](http://www.granitecitytrainshow.com)

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