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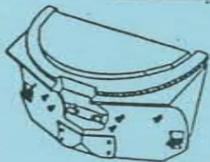
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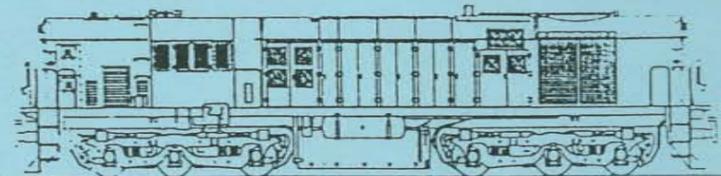
MAGAZINES and VIDEOS

AUSTRALIAN, AMERICAN, NEW ZEALAND, BRITISH VIDEOS.
N-GAUGE MAGAZINE, MODEL RAILROADER, RAIL MODEL JOURNAL, PACIFIC RAIL NEWS, TRAINS, NARROW GAUGE GAZETTE, AUSTRALIAN RAILWAYS, ROUNDHOUSE, BULLETIN, AUSTRALIAN MODEL RAILWAY MAGAZINE, PACIFIC RAILWAY, RAIL AUSTRALIA, RAILWAY DIGEST, MAINLINE MODELLER, RAILWAY MODELLER, CONTINENTAL MODELLER.

SNOW PLOWS



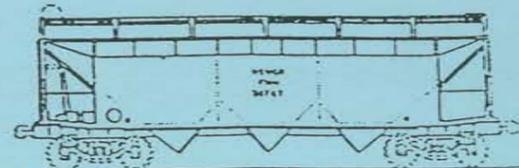
AIR HORNS



COOLING FANS



NUMBER BOARDS



MAIN LINE

National Model Railroad Association Incorporated
Australasian Region

Volume 10 Number 1
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Jan, Feb, Mar 1993
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Convention 93 Special Issue



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Main Line is the official journal of the Australasian Region of the National Model Railroad Association Incorporated. It is published four times per year in approximately February, May, August, and November. Articles, letters, members classified advertisements and club notices are solicited from the membership and are considered to be donated free for the benefit of the hobby. They should be mailed to:- THE EDITOR, Main Line, 7 Booralie Road, TERREY HILLS, N.S.W. 2084.

Articles can be submitted on a computer disk (IBM) 3.5" or 5.25". Most WP packages can be read at this time. This magazine is prepared on a 386SX(25) computer (105M & 40M HD's) and prepared on a BJ10EX Bubble Jet printer and a Kyosera FS1500 laser printer (HP Laserjet III) using Wordperfect 5.1 and Drawperfect 1.1.

Paid advertising is welcomed. Current rates for four issues are \$130 for a full page, \$70 for a half page, \$40 for a quarter page and \$150 for the back cover. All enquiries regarding advertising should be directed to the Editor.

Front Cover: Drawn by Bill Cooper.

REGIONAL MEETING SCHEDULE

13th March	ACT/NSW	Canberra Exhibition National Circuit	Uniting Church Hall FORREST (near Canberra Ave)
17th March 2.00pm	SA Banksia Park	N. Hazzlewood (08) 251 1715	29 Nunyah Park Banksia Park
3rd April 2.00pm	VIC Vermont South	Rob Dall (03)801 6034	7 Murchison Avenue Vermont South
17th April 2.00pm	NSW Newport HO Union Pacific Mainline	Mike Bartlett (02) 99 4966	30 Nullaburra Road Newport
21st April 2.00pm	SA Forreston Mud Map Available	Ray Brownbill (08) 389 1045	Forreston - Williamstown Road R.M.D. Forreston
15th May 16th May	NSW Westmead	CONVENTION SEE DETAILS ELSE WHERE	Uni of Western Sydney Westmead Campus
19th May 2.00pm	SA Plympton	Brian Hoskins (08) 293 6305	38 Errington Street Plympton
12th June 2.00pm	NSW Vaucluse On3	George Paxon (02) 337 6093	31 Hopetoun Ave Vaucluse
12/13/14 June	SA Wayville	Model Railway Exhibition	Hamilton Hall Wayville Showground
16th June 2.00pm	SA Para Hills West	Richard Ash (08) 262 7627	1 Woodstock Crescent Para Hills West
3rd July 2.00pm	VIC North Balwyn	Greame Nitz (03) 857 6959	20 Alpha Street North Balwyn
10th July	NSW Somewhere Your layout can be seen on this day.	A Member Please Contact Glen Coventry	Your Address
14th August 11.30 am	VIC Maryborough	Peter Myers BBQ	17 Majorca Road Maryborough
14th August	NSW Somewhere Else Please Contact Glen Coventry and offer your home	A. N. Other	His/her Address
18th Sept	NSW Broadmeadow	Newcastle Exhibition Yes, This is the right date.	Netball Stadium
18th Sept	VIC Ballarat	Paul Richie Venue To Be Advised	11.30 start BBQ Ballarat
20th Nov 11.30 am	VIC Sunbury	Laurie Green End of Year BBQ	20 Nambour Drive Sunbury

The Hamilton American Railroaders Inc. (New Zealand) are hosting the 1993 American Model Railroaders Bi-Annual meet at Hamilton Te Rapa Convention Centre on June 5th to 7th 1993, all are welcome to attend this meet. For further information write to :- Hamilton American Railroaders Inc. P.O. Box 10400, Te Rapa, Hamilton New Zealand. Fax (07) 839 0035 Phone (07) 839 0035.

FROM THE CHAIR.

The Christmas party for those who were unable to attend was fabulous, a report appears elsewhere in this issue. Thank you to Ian Hopkins and Peter Bone for a great day. Even the weather co-operated.

I went along to the "Extra" meeting held by Warren Wormald on the ninth of January at his home in Schofields. And it was a very interesting afternoon. Warren's layout though small, 8'x4', none the less had many interesting features. A single track loop around with a reversing section through the middle and a passing track and several spurs make for versatile operation. Warren has used many small structures both scratch built and kit built with more to come. The integration of the roadways and trackwork was a good reminder that trains do not exist in isolation and without roads we would have no reason to run trains. The scenery, though only about half completed, worked well and the whole layout can be incorporated into a larger one later. The slide-out control panel triggered lots of interest and I am thinking how I can use the idea on my own layout. Videos and slides rounded out the afternoon. Afternoon tea was prepared by Warren's sister.

The point of incorporating a layout report into my presidential ramblings is that if you don't feel up to a "Full Meeting" at your place, maybe try Warren's approach and hold a small "Extra" meeting just to get the feel of it. Thank you Warren for being involved and getting into it.

We need more venues for meetings in the latter half of this year. You will note in the meeting schedule a blank for Sydney this July. Please contact Glen Coventry if you have a suitable venue for July or later and if you are in one of the other divisions and would like a meeting at your place, contact your Divisional Superintendent in your state. Their names and numbers are inside the front cover of Main Line. The more you are involved the more fun it is.

A point raised at Warren's by one of our members is worth discussing. Why do we invite Non Members to our conventions and not charge them extra? Good question.

The convention committee grapples with this one

every time we plan a convention and on the face of it, it does seem unfair. Our reason is simple. Non members attending our conventions do not usually remain non members for long. A very large percentage like what they see and sign up on the day or within a few weeks. The last major convention resulted in over 35 new members. By not charging a premium we help maintain and increase our membership. The conventions are our most effective method of recruiting new members, and without new members we stagnate.

At the Board of Directors meeting on February 1st the question of our membership fees was raised by treasurer Andrew Wells. As we all know the Australian Dollar is not the flavour of the month with overseas money markets and they have seriously devalued our currency over the last year by well over 12%. As most of our members in Australia renew their US membership through the local branch we have been sustaining a loss on the exchange rate. Our fees have not changed for several years. In addition production costs on our magazine continue to creep up and the cost per year for the four magazines is more than the \$11.00 membership fee. The production quality of Main Line has improved dramatically. Postal charges are set to increase 35-80% as the concession rate for registered publications is phased out over the next year and Print Post is introduced. The committee therefore has had no choice but to increase the membership charges to more accurately reflect our costs. Combined membership for both the US and Australia will rise from A\$44.00 to A\$50.00. Membership of the Australian region rises from A\$11.00 to A\$14.00. The complete list is elsewhere in the magazine. The good news is that family membership remains the same at A\$7.00.

In this issue we have included a book of raffle tickets to all members. These are only activated when returned prior to the drawing, the prize being a trip to the US National Convention in 1993 or 1994 up to \$2000.00 worth. I hope you all accept these in the spirit in which they are offered, that is to give all members an equal opportunity to attend a US National Convention.

Sowerby Smith

MEETING REPORTS

December at Thirlmere

Saturday December 12th and the weather was fabulous for our trip to the Christmas party at Ian Hopkins place in the country, "Toad Hall" just a few meters from the entrance to Thirlmere Railway Museum. The torrential rains of the preceding week were behind us. By getting there early I was able to take a stroll round the Museum and judging by the number of familiar faces most of the club members did the same.

Our hosts Ian Hopkins and Peter Bone made us all feel most welcome. Ian's layout was on show in the garage and though it is very much at the preliminary stage it was clear it will be a very practical and useable design. It is based on a plan from Walkaround Model Railroad Trackplans by Don Mitchell, Model Railroaders Handbook #29, and is the Bekin United. A switching layout L shaped and 8'x10' by 2' wide. Ian has named it "Eldorado Springs & Pacific", ESP for short. The inspiration for the name comes from a town located on the Sacramento River. For all you module fans out there it is to the NMRA module standards (Australian Variety) with double track main line around the front and lots of interesting and varied industries to switch near the operator. There will be a wharf at one end that will provide lots of interesting operation. In addition, Ian's extensive railroad library was on display.

After entering through the "train room" we all adjourned to the lovely back garden, 80' wide and 150' long, and set among the trees were numerous tables and chairs and a scene reminiscent of an elegant garden party. Under the pergola the bar-be-que and food was set out and next to the potting shed the drinks table was set with champagne and soft drinks. Over 55 members and guests attended. Shirley MacMicking was there selling raffle tickets and the grand raffle prize for the day was a beautiful framed print of a narrow gauge steamer in the snow. Over \$90.00 was raised via the raffle to help cover the cost of the May convention. Garry Spencer-Salt held a mini clinic in the train room after the short formal announcements.

It was good to see Kay Upton at the meeting, her first major trip out from the hospital after her treatment for leukaemia and Michael Flack who only four weeks previously had a heart bypass was very chipper. A wag at the meeting suggested we produce Christmas cards next year and half should have "get well soon" messages in them. Thank you both for coming.

We had several members from Canberra and one from Rockhampton in Queensland, Lynn Zelmer managed to

time a conference in Sydney to coincide with the Christmas meeting. It's great to see our interstate members whenever they are in town.

I would like to thank once again Ian Hopkins for inviting us to his place in the country and to Peter Bone who worked so hard to make the day such a success. Also I must thank Peter and Ian who donated the total proceeds of the donations by the members for the BBQ and over \$150.00 has been added to club funds by their generosity.

Sowerby Smith

South Australia -- Getting To Know You

A successful meeting was held at my residence on Feb 6th '93 as a "Get-To-Know-You" meeting, general discussion was held about Model Railroading, further meetings, and direct supply of items from the U.S. This was very informative to the members who attended.

Further meetings and venues have been arranged (see Regional Meeting Schedule) Further meetings and reports will be published in the Main Line. We have 12 members now in S.A., 3 are U.S. direct but hopefully I will help them come under the umbrella of the Australasian Region

Richard Ash

Victoria - Maryborough

Saturday, 21st November, saw members travelling to Maryborough for a BBQ at Peter Myers' home. Coffee and discussion started the day followed by the presentation to Laurie Green of his award and a look at some of the models members brought along to show.

After a most enjoyable lunch we went to have a look at an O scale layout under construction by Russell Asprey. This layout has its own room 28' X 40' - a walk in style. Continuous trackage is hand laid with over 50% down. There are quite a few buildings from a previous layout - scratchbuilt with interior detail in several.

Laurie Green held a short workshop on constructing rock work. A bucket of local soil was seen to be heading in the direction of Sunbury!

An enjoyable day was had by all. Thanks to all at Maryborough.

Paul Richie

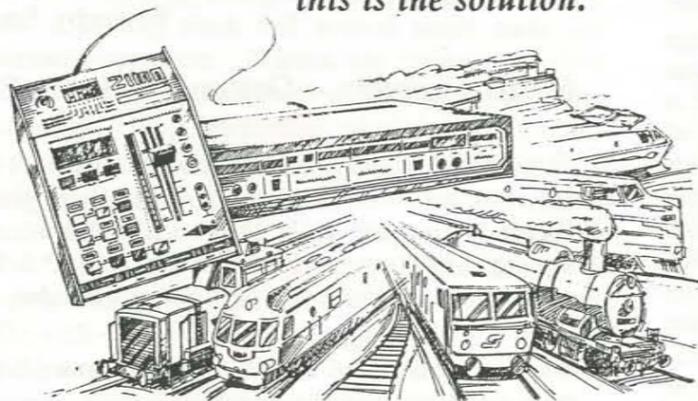
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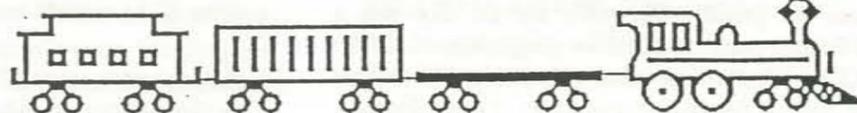
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Convention '93 --||-- Registration Form

Surname	Initials	1st Name	
Spouse	Initials	1st Name	
Address			
City		State	Post Code
Are you a member?	YES	NO	
		ATTENDEE	@ \$45.00
		SPOUSE	@ 15.00
	Layout Tour	RED	@ \$6.00
	Layout Tour	BLUE	@ \$6.00
	Layout Inspection	YELLOW	@ \$6.00
	Layout Inspection	ORANGE	@ \$6.00
	Layout Inspection	GREEN	@ \$6.00
	Saturday Night Dinner		@ \$22.00 ea
SUBTOTAL			
Less \$5.00 for Registration BEFORE 1st April			
TOTAL			
Do you wish accomodation information?		Do you wish information on the Ladies' Program?	
YES NO		YES NO	
I enclose my remittance of \$		OR Please charge to my credit card (Tick Box)	
Bankcard	Mastercard	Visacard	Expiry Date:
Card No.	----- ----- ----- -----		Signature
Please make cheques payable to NMRA Inc.			
Send To :- Mr Kevin Brown,. 33 Tobruk Street. St. Marys, NSW 2760 AUSTRALIA.			

LAYOUT TOURS

RED tour	John Baker Lawrence Nagy One Other	HO N	SP, UP, Santa Fe Pennsy
BLUE tour	Michael Flack Bruce Ballment Sowerby Smith	HO n3 HO n3 HO	South Pacific Lines DRGW Southern Pacific

LAYOUT INSPECTIONS

YELLOW tour	Gary Norwood	HO n3	Rio Grande Southern
ORANGE tour	Phillip Moore	HO	AT&SF
GREEN tour	Geoff Nott	HO	White Pass & Cowlitz

CONVENTION '93

This convention will be the most ambitious conducted by the **NMRA** in Australia. To set an innovative tone, we have invited a recognised leader of the US Model Railroading Community - **Mr Tony Koester**, President of the Allegheny Midland, to share his experience and knowledge. Tony Koester, Allan McClland & Jim Hediger have, from the early 1960's, shaped the direction of model railroading through the 70's, 80's and into the 90's. Tony through his column in the Model Railroader - "Trains Of Thought" continues to confront and present innovative concepts to all in the hobby.

Tony's layout has featured in Model Railroader and the MR Great Layouts Series and is currently being filmed by Allan Keller Productions for the Great Layouts Tape Series.

This convention will be two full days of clinics, layout tours and inspections with an innovative program based on the highly successful 1992 Mini Convention at Sans Souci. No effort has been spared to bring the best program to all attendees.

All the program items experienced at the 1992 convention will be there along with a new approach to clinics - The Model Railroad Inspection, to be conducted on the Saturday. This allows for some of the most skilled modellers in the NMRA to conduct a full clinic on the most impressive of stages - Their Own Model Railroad!

LAYOUT TOURS

On the Sunday we have organised to view some of the best that is offered in the world of model railroading. The fine layouts of John Baker, Lawrence Nagy, Michael Flack, Bruce Ballment, and Sowerby Smith have been made available for your viewing and entertainment.

The Buses will allow you to discuss what you have seen or just relax in pleasant company. The tours are so timed as to ensure that all attendees are back for Tony Koester's closing clinic on Sunday afternoon.

The attendees at these inspections will have in excess of 60 minutes to examine, video, photograph the layout, and quiz the owner on those special points of interest and gain valuable knowledge for their own model empire. Also a 15 minute photo session has been set aside, at the end for all the camera buffs.

For those taking them, the layout tours on the Sunday will, of course, offer a fine days entertainment. The Layout Tours and Inspections will be conducted using bus transport (a first!) allowing for a highly social mode of travel to each venue.

To aid in the promotion, a raffle for \$2000 towards airfare etc, to the 1993 or 1994 NMRA Conventions in the United States has been organised to finance and promote this convention, More details elsewhere in this magazine.

The success of this convention (it is hoped) will lead to greater and more exciting conventions in the future. For now, we hope you will come, enjoy, and gain in knowledge by your attendance. **BOOK EARLY - SPACE IS LIMITED - and filling fast.**

See You At The Convention

**Gary Spencer-Salt
Program Co-ordinator.**

CLINICS

A group of very talented Australian Modellers have offered their services for your direction, education and enjoyment.

*	Phil Moore	Quick Scenery for large areas
*	Keith McCarron	Photographing the layout with your 35mm SLR
*	Gary Norwood	Scratchbuilding rolling stock
*	MMR ³	Phil Knife - Gerry Hopkins - Fred Gill
*	Laurie Green	Tall trees and Majestic scenery
*	Ken Scales	Scenery tips old and new
*	Geoff Hoad	More kitbashing of diesels
*	Fred Gill	Rock casting for scenery
*	Phil Badger	Etching for locomotives and structures
*	Kevin Brown	Railfanning the World
*	Peter Burrows	Railfanning in New England (Slide Theatre)

GUEST PRESENTER - - Tony Koester, President of the Allegheny Midland

*****A Closer Look At Aspects Of The Allegheny Midland*****

Tony's major clinic will feature a range of all new photographs never seen before. This clinic will range across subjects such as Structures, Construction, Kitbashing and operation on the A.M. This clinic will be a full 1 hour on the Saturday and Sunday. This allows you to attend the Inspections on the Saturday and still see Tony in action!!

Tony has also agreed to conduct a "Trains Of Thought" discussion group on the Saturday Afternoon. This will be an informal lecture by Tony about the benefits and philosophy of operation of a model railroad. A question and answer session will be at the end and will range across all aspects of the hobby and Tony's philosophy". This should not be missed by anyone who is wishing to lift his Model Railroad into the real world. Tony is hoping to bring some of the first copies of Allan Keller's video session with him - with luck we might be the first to see this program.

INSPECTIONS

As outlined, the inspections are really "on site" clinics with sufficient time to allow the visitor to examine and discuss the concepts used by the owner in the creation of his empire. They are intended to be an educational tool as are the clinics provided at the convention centre.

Phil Moore - Santa Fe Class 1 Main Line

Located in Cajon Pass, this layout has continued to advance since its debut at the 1991 Convention. Phil's layout is true Class 1 with trackage and scenery that capture the drama of the Santa Fe operation through Cajon Pass. This layout features the use of new and innovative materials and techniques that have been used to create the semi arid conditions of the California landscape.

The layout is also of interest due to its use of command control and computer dispatching C.T.C. panels and extensive use of layover tracks. Of course don't miss Phil's clinic on the Saturday on how he created the scenery.

Gary Norwood - Rio Grande Southern (circa 1940)

Through his extensive research of the RGS, Gary has recreated Placerville, Vance Junction, Ophir Loop and the Summit on his layout. Gary's depth of knowledge of the RGS is unique and has been combined with skills as a prize winning model builder to create a totally accurate models of the selected areas. Gary's skills as an instrument fitter have been used to completely rebuild the locomotives to ensure their smooth operation and accuracy in appearance for the 1940's time frame he is modelling. This layout would be of interest to anyone contemplating construction of a model of the RGS in any time frame. This inspection will provide valuable insights into how to construct and source information - a must for all dedicated prototype modellers.

Geoff Nott - White Pass & Cowlitz (Freelance)

Geoff's layout is famous for its towering mountains and magnificent scenery. The layout features the use of natural and commercial products combined in such a way as to create scenery that has no equal. The layout has recently undergone simplification of the track work and a complete rebuilding incorporating the new "Real Rock" scenery developed and outlined at the 1992 convention. By the way, did we mention the equipment and rolling stock? They blend with the scenery to create a seamless vista that will leave you wondering if you have been looking at the real thing!

ACCOMMODATION.

The closest motel is the **Best Western**, Parramatta City Motel situated on the Western Highway, just 1.2 KM from our venue. Normal rates per night are \$69.00 single, \$79.00 double and \$85.00 treble (One double and one single bed). These rates are reducible by 10% for group bookings of 10 or more rooms but would need to be arranged directly by the NMRA. Please call Toni Saxon on (02 949 4767 to arrange your bookings.

LADIES PROGRAM.

For those interested, we will provide transport from the University on the Saturday morning to the nearby Westfield Shopping Mall which is the largest in western Sydney and has recently undergone an extensive expansion and refurbishment. Parramatta is a very historic city and we will provide a map of nearby historic attractions for a self-guided walking tour starting from Westfield. Arrangements will be made for collection and return to the University in the late afternoon. Please indicate your interest in this program on the registration form.

SATURDAY EVENING MEAL.

We have booked the famous Roving Roast organisation who will serve a scrumptious spit roasted meal of beef or pork with gravy, potatoes, salads, sweets and coffee, tea or milk. The cost is a most reasonable \$22.00 per person payable with your registration. Other drinks will also be available.

Tony will be our dinner speaker and his topic will be "An Update On The Allegheny Midland". Tony will speak of the latest developments on the AM and will enlighten us to his reasons to return to steam transition. This will form the ideal end to a fine meal.

SILENT AUCTION

A separate room has been set aside for the Silent Auction. Attendees will have the opportunity to auction their surplus model railroad items. There will be ample time to view the items and write your bids on the sheets. To ease the pain of payment for all the items you bought, credit cards will be accepted. There are always plenty of items both rare and forgotten, so allow yourself time to browse.

THE MAIN HALL

In the Main Hall there are many things to interest the modeller. There will be four commercial stands displaying a wide range of products for the new and experienced modeller alike. You will also be able to purchase the latest items from the Company Store.

*****//*****

There will be two separate video theatrettes, one will be for the prototype videos and one for model videos. There will be a large selection of videos available for your education / enjoyment.

*****//*****

For your entertainment, three layouts will be on display throughout the weekend. These three layouts are built for display at exhibitions and as such, there many techniques used which are not used on the normal home layout. You are invited to talk to the operators - they don't bite!

From Victoria, Laurie Green will be showing his majestic "Rio Grande Southern" HO_n3 exhibition layout. This layout has won many awards at exhibitions across Australia. You get the feeling you are in Colorado when you look up at the trestles.

From Sydney, Gerry and Lauris Hopkins have brought their "Kennebec County Railroad" HO_n30" exhibition layout. Like Laurie's layout they have won many awards at exhibitions across Australia. You can relax and listen to the birds, wait for the trout to jump or just watch the narrow gauge steam locos run by. There have been many changes to the scenery since the last Convention, thanks to excavations started by a neighbour's cat. There are many "hidden" scenes on the layout - you can ask for a guided tour!

Also from Sydney is the "Dead River and Smokey Flats" N/N_n3 exhibition layout of John Gaffy. The trains are mostly Great Northern and Burlington Northern. The layout is made up of modules and can change its size to suit the space.

*****//*****

The Model Contest will be held on the Saturday morning, once the judging is finished attendees will be able to view the entries. The standard of modelling is always very high and much can be learnt by all modellers. There are articles elsewhere in this magazine on how best to enter the contest and details of the different categories available. The Photographic Contest entries will also be on display in the Main Hall. There are always interesting shots of both prototype and models. The display models will be on show in the Main Hall. Why not bring your favorite model along and put it in the display.

*****//*****

There will also be refreshments available throughout the day and some where to sit and talk and be sociable.

Don't miss out on this terrific weekend.

Convention - 1993 - SATURDAY

TIME	Main Hall	Clinic Room 1	Clinic Room 2
8.30 - 10.00	Registrations Accept Items For:- Silent Action; Model Contest; Photo Contest.		
9.00	Welcome Address		
9.05	Welcome Tony Koester		
9.15 - 5.00	Continuous Video presentation in 2 theatres, 1 steam - 1 diesel Company Store Open		
9.15 - 10.15	Commercial Stands (All day)	Aspects of the Allegheny Midland	Tony Koester
10.15 - 10.45	Refreshments		
10.45 - 11.45	Rio Grande Southern Layout (All day)	Etching for Locos / Structures Phil Badger	Rail Fanning New England Peter Burrows
12.00 - 1.00	Kennebec County Layout (All day)	Photographing Model Railroads with a 35mm Camera Keith McCarron	Tall Trees and Majestic Scenery Laurie Green
1.00 - 2.00	LUNCH BREAK		
2.15 - 3.15	Company Store (All day)	Trains Of Thought	Tony Koester
3.25 - 4.25	Videos on Show (All day) Commercial Stands (All day)	Quick Scenery For Large Layouts Phillip Moore	MMR ³ Phil Knife Gerry Hopkins Fred Gill
4.25	Leisure Time(Play Time)		
5.30 - 7.00	Dinner Is Served !		
7.10 - 7.30		The Ultimate Audio Visual Show	Keith McCarron
7.30	Presentation To Tony Koester		

SILENT AUCTION

8.30 - 10.00	Items for sale will be accepted at the Silent Auction.
10.30 - 11.00	First inspection of items at the Silent Auction.
12.00 - 1.30	Last inspection and closure of the Silent Auction.
3.00 - 3.30	Payments received and goods delivered.
5.00 - 5.15	Payments to sellers and return unsold items.

LAYOUT INSPECTIONS - SATURDAY

Yellow	Dept 9.00 am	Return	11.35
Orange	Dept 10.15	Return	12.50
Green	Dept 2.00	Return	4.15

LAYOUT TOURS - SUNDAY

Red	Dept 9.00	Return	12.30
Blue	Dept 9.00	Return	12.30

Convention - 1993 - SUNDAY

TIME	Main Hall	Clinic Room 1	Clinic Room 2
8.00	OPEN		
9.00 - 10.00	Company Store (To 2.00pm)	Scratchbuilding Rolling Stock Gary Norwood	More Kit Bashing Diesels Geoff Hoad
10.00	Morning Tea / Coffee		
10.45 - 11.45	Kennebec County Railroad (To 2.00pm) Rio Grande Southern (To 2.00pm)	Rail Fanning the Rio Grande Southern Greg Hiley	Rock Moulds And Scenery Fred Gill MMR
12.00 - 1.00	Commercial Stands	Scenery Tips , Old and New Ken Scales	
1.00 - 2.00	LUNCH		
2.00 - 3.00	Video Displays (To 2.00pm)	Further Aspects of the Allegheny Midland Tony Koester	
3.00 - 3.30	Afternoon Tea / Coffee		
3.30	Official Presentations and Closure		

Refreshments are available throughout both days.

NMRA
1993 CONVENTION
15-16th MAY 1993

Major Raffle

The Prize

Valued at \$2000.00*

A return Air Fare to the USA

**to visit the NMRA National Convention
in 1993 or 1994 Travelling Via QANTAS or UNITED**

To be Drawn at the NMRA Sydney Convention at the University of Western Sydney
Westmead Campus on Sun. 16th of May 1993 Enquiries phone (02)624 8332

To be eligible for the Competition Ticket Stubs and the Money must have been received prior to the drawing of the raffle.
Send Tickets and Money to Andrew Wells, 5 Ivey Street, Chatswood, NSW 2067. Or hand them in on the day at the Convention.

*The winner may transfer the prize to a third party or take the prize as travel, the total value not to exceed A\$2000.00

N.B Due to a change in the running order of the Convention the Raffle will be drawn on Sunday 16th and Not Saturday 15th as stated on the ticket

The Photo Contest

There are 4 categories in our photo contest, judged according to the NMRA guidelines

Model

- 1.11 Black and White Print
- 1.12 Colour Print

Prototype Subject

- 1.21 Black and White Print
- 1.22 Colour Print

The NMRA judging guidelines and scoring are based on the following;

A. SUBJECT MATTER

The visual impact of the shot, up to **20 points**.

B. DIFFICULTY

A realist photograph of a model is more difficult than a simple prototype and should score better, up to **20 points**.

C. COMPOSITION

Visual arrangement of forms within the picture must be pleasing, up to **20 points**.

D. ARTISTIC APPROACH

Visual effects used to enhance the artistic or creative impact of the shot, up to **20 points**.

E. FINISHING AND TECHNIQUE

Is the image correctly printed, spotted and mounted etc. up to **20 points**.

A few hints to help you maximise your score. The minimum print size is 6 x 4 and it will have more impact if it is larger. Prints must be mounted if you want to win. A simple card mounting board will suffice. You will lose marks for not mounting and presenting your work to the best possible standard. Model photography gains points in scoring against prototype as it is much more difficult to do. This will only matter when Best in Show is close. Each category is judged on its own merits. Indicate if you made the prints yourself or if a commercial lab made them, it is only right you should gain extra points for scratch building the print! We do not accept transparencies because it is too hard to display them adequately. Last of all don't be put off from entering your shots. Have a Go!

Sowerby Smith

The Model Contest

There are presently eleven (11) categories for models in NMRA contests, in both Modellers and Masters section. Masters are those modellers who have earned more than 87.5pts in that category in a previous contest. In brief, these categories are:

- 1 Locomotives - Steam
 - 2 Locomotives - Diesel and other
 - 3 Passenger Cars
 - 4 Freight Cars
 - 5 Caboose
 - 6 Non revenue cars, Maintenance of way cars
- The above categories are hopfully self explanatory.

If any of the above are presented on track or any form of presentation then they are considered to be a Display / Diorama.

- 7 Structures - On Line
- Structures that are owned by the railroad. No base or form of scenery is required.

- 8 Structures - Off Line
- Structures that are not owned by the railroad e.g. school, bus stop, cafe, pig pen.

- 9 Displays or Dioramas
- A building or group of buildings, a section of scenery, with or without track, i.e. a typical / non-typical scene that can be part of a model railroad.

- 10 Traction
- The same as for categories 2-6.

- 11 Modules
- The same as 9 except that it is operational on its own or as part of a layout.

(Structures On and Off Line count as one category in determining eligibility to enter Modellers Contest.)

Each model is judged against a score sheet NOT against another model. The score sheet is made up of 5 sections:

- | | | |
|---|-------------------------------|------------------------|
| 1 | Construction | (Maximum of 40 points) |
| | (Quality of construction) | |
| 2 | Detail | (Maximum of 25 points) |
| 3 | Conformity | (Maximum of 10 Points) |
| 4 | Finish & Lettering | (Maximum of 25 Points) |
| 5 | Scratchbuilt | (Maximum of 25 Points) |
| | (Quantity of scratchbuilding) | |

If you have entered a model in a previous contest, you may enter the same model again provided that it did not win 1st place at that contest.

Gerry Hopkins

Model Contest and Achievement Program Tips

by Fred Gill MMR

The purpose of this article is to help those modellers who will be entering the model contests at the forthcoming Convention '93. Some members may not be aware that they can obtain Merit Awards in the Achievement Program by entering their models in the Model Contests. If a model achieves 87½ points in a contest then that model is eligible for an AP Merit Award and this could then be the beginning of accumulating points towards the Achievement Certificate.

This year, judging at the Regional Convention will be on sectional judging. In this case a team of judges (at least two individuals) will be assigned to one of the five sections to be judged, i.e., *Construction, Detail, Conformity, Finish/Lettering and Scratchbuilt*. This team of two will then judge only that section in all the categories.

The Model Contest Entry Form (No. 902) and the manner in which you complete it is particularly important. This will be explained in more detail further along.

It is a sad but true fact that many modellers will spend weeks or months building a model, then put it into the contest with an entry form picked up in the contest room at the last minute and filled out in haste. The judges are not clairvoyant and the only way that they can determine how the model was built, and in what manner, is by the way you describe it on the entry form. If it is at all possible you should endeavour to obtain your Model Contest entry forms as far in advance as possible. Contest Entry forms can be obtained from the Contest Chairman - Gerry Hopkins MMR, 7 Booralie Road, Terrey Hills NSW 2084, whilst AP regulations can be obtained from Fred Gill MMR, P.O. Box 155, Baulkham Hills NSW 2153. Secondly, if possible the forms should be typed, but if that is not possible then PRINT the information legibly in ink, NOT pencil. By filling out your entry form well in advance of the contest, you can sit down quietly, without pressure, review what you want to tell the judges, then make a rough draft and read it over, correct it if necessary and when it suits you the complete the entry form.

Keep your explanations short and clear, as your intention is to simply inform the judges what you did and how you did it. You are not confined to the space allocated for each section and it may be wise to use a separate sheet of paper for a particular section. If you do this, mark " *see attached sheet* " in the space for that section and be sure to mark the separate sheet/s with the section heading (scratchbuilding, detail, etc.) and your name.

Supplementary material, such as photographs, diagrams and plans can be very helpful to the judges. If you do submit such material, don't put 5-10 additional sheets into your write up. If you have use an erection drawing or a large plan, try and have duplicated and reduced to a manageable size.

The detail section of the entry form calls for a list of all commercial parts used, so if none were used then record this on the form as NONE or NIL. It makes it easier for the judges when they are allocating points to the model.

The scratchbuilt section calls for a list also, so you should complete it as described above in the detail section. It is in the Scratchbuilt section more than any other section that judging is of a quantitative nature. The more you scratchbuild, the more points you may reasonably expect to gain. Make your list as complete as possible and say what you have to say, remember KISS (keep it short and simple). If you started with a NWSL 4-4-0, say so and don't tell the judges the story that the model is constructed of entirely of brass sheet and castings etc.

Make your sentences count, if you kitbash your model, tell it like it is. If you scratchbuilt a portion and kitbashed the rest, then spell it out that way. Do it in the beginning of your construction narrative so that what follows is that much easier to be understood by the judges.

If a certain part of your model construction falls into one or more of the contest sections, be sure to mention it in each section. As an example, suppose you have working doors and windows on your model, under construction you should describe the manner in which you made them operable. Under the detail section you should mention the fact that they operate, after all, that's an important part of detailing. Under conformity it should be again mentioned, as operating doors/windows certainly conform more than non-operating ones. Finally, you could mention the operating fact under scratchbuilt as if any of the operating parts were scratchbuilt, points would be awarded.

In summary, the name of the game is points. The more points you earn the better your model will score. So don't handicap it by a sloppy, poorly filled out entry form. Give the judges the information that they need to know. Do it as clearly, legibly and succinctly as you can. If you have supplementary information, keep it to a reasonable amount and in an easily handled form.

INTERCHANGE

Firstly - Happy New Year to you. Well things are starting to roll. Ron Cooper from Collaroy has asked for information on Building a Spiral in "HO" scale (std. gauge). Ron can't find information on this and doesn't want to waste time experimenting. Assistance would be appreciated from those who have successfully built or who have data on spirals. The spiral will form part of the mainline and Ron plans to run long wheel base steam locos. Ron's phone number is 982 1147.

Bob Nelson, Superintendent Div 4 has written and is happy to take care of member aid assistance himself, however, it's here we should all be able to help any member if or where information and assistance is required. Bob mentions he has had a query on parts for a Roundhouse Loco Kit from a member in Darwin - and a query from a father looking for suitable equipment for a 4 year old son and a couple of other interesting one's!

One good point about our association is that longtime model R.R'ers store old kit plans and such and of course there's bound to be a time when you have a kit or like without plans. So this column and your local model R.R agent can help you get more enjoyment and satisfaction by using the network which stretches from Perth to New Zealand and would have to cover every (normal) scale!

D.R. McAdam of Port Ohope, New Zealand, recently purchased a set of articulated piggyback cars and the truck trailer to use with them at his container depot. The trailers are loaded onto the train with an overhead crane mounted on large tyres and straddles the track. Would any one with photos or plans who could help him build this crane please contact me.

Looking forward to meeting you at what's lining up to be one hell of a convention, and remember, if you're having modelling problems - ask your "local bloke" first and if still having problems then share them through this column.

Laurie McLean

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

I recently attended the first Convention of the Conrail Technical Society which was held in Allentown PA between Nov 20 - 22.

One of the activities on Sunday 22nd was a conducted tour of the Allentown dump yard. As we were walking around I saw two gondolas leaving on a train, chalked on the side was "AUSSIE Side Frames 90 EA" as per enclosed photo [unfortunatly the photo would not reproduce well enough to print - Editor]. No one on the tour knew what it meant, it seemed such a strange thing to see, any ideas what it stands for?

Incidentally, Conrail couldn't do enough for us, we got a grand tour of their dispatching centre at Mt Laurel N.J. and then the diesel depot at Pavonia Yard in Cander N.J. The next day of course as mentioned we had a tour of Allentown Yard. Around 60 people attended, and the one next year is being held in Altona.

I model Conrail now, it started as a rebellion against all the Western roads I saw modelled everywher in New Zealand, and that included myself! Now of course Conrail has become very successful, and many more models are available.

**Arthur Roker
Bundaberg QLD**

MODULE S.I.G.

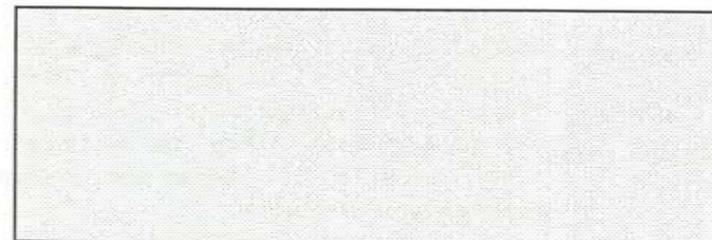
Peter Jenkinson is interested in forming a SIG to start Modular Layout Construction, similar to the NTRAK modules but in HO.

Peter does not have a layout but would like to build a module so that he can run his trains once in a while.

There were a few modules in Sydney a few years ago built I don't know what happened to them.

Would all members interested in this SIG please contact Peter on (046) 714809 or drop him a line at 14 Kent Street, Berkley NSW 2506.

NATIONAL MODEL RAILROAD ASSOCIATION INC. AUSTRALASIAN REGION



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Prototype Interest / Railroad			
Name of Your Layout / Railroad			
Are you a member of the parent Association? If Yes - Membership No.		YES / NO	Expiry Date -
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N.M.R.A. Inc., 247 Eastern Valley Way., MIDDLE COVE NSW 2068			

This is the top of the new membership renewal/application form. As you can see we have had to change the membership charges (see Sowerby's report) to match the value of the Australian peso against the US Dollar. There are also a few extra boxes you can fill in, these are only for general information within our database e.g. name of railroad, gauge etc.

The other important change is the fact that you can now pay by Credit Card, this will make the increases less painful.

If you change your address at any time please notify Jack MacMicking. Eight issues of the last Main Line were returned because of change of address.

DESTINATION - "DURANGO" PART 6

By Laurie Mclean

Little by little information comes in and the latest was in the form of some colour photographs that Mick O'Hannlan took when he was over at the convention last year. The shots were of main street buildings (hotels) and support other photo's that Geoff Willett has loaned me - thanks fellas.

This issue shows some techniques and sketches I use and can be of benefit to you. There's nothing worse than seeing a structure not "sitting" right on a layout looking like it's just been dropped there and sitting on uneven and unsceniced land. Also, it's frustrating building plastics kits only to find warped or uneven joining edges that leave gaps and therefore lead to dissatisfaction. So here's some helpful tips on sorting out the problems and solving them, from the ground up!

1) Use a thick cut out paper which the same as the floor plan of the structure and place this on the layout. This will give you a very good idea before you build and find it won't fit. It also allows you to see the undulations of the land form and you can mark out for foundations - a little item very often overlooked.

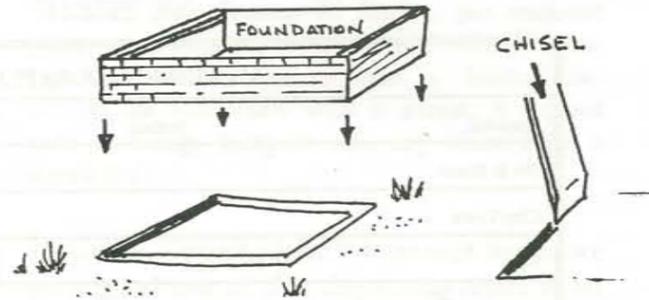
2) Foundations are easy and for model purposes cheap to construct :-

Firstly: Wooden piers can be made from matchsticks. On the line drawn on the layout drill holes to snugly take the match piers equally distanced and having one on each corner. Using a small level place it atop as a row and gently push down. Continue to do this on all rows until it's where civil engineering practice would have it (if it looks right it is right rule). A small amount of glue can be put onto some or all of the piers to hold. Before putting the structure on top you may wish to put diagonal wood braces on the side (ref: fig 1).



Secondly: Brick or stone foundations will look better if they are sunken into the landscape (ref fig 2) this type can be "cut to suit" or by

chiselling into the scenery and later applying scenic material. If you are building a wooden structure on top of the brick\stone foundation then any size stonework will do. However, if you are building bricks on top then the foundation work should be of a larger size so that it complements the structure.



USE WOOD CHISEL TO CREATE GROOVE IN SCENERY OR SHAPE FOUNDATION TO SUIT CONTOUR OF LAND.

Figure 3: Shows simple extra details like basement doors. Also you can add ventilators, plumbing, drains, electrical connection\fuse boxes and other such items depending on foundation height.

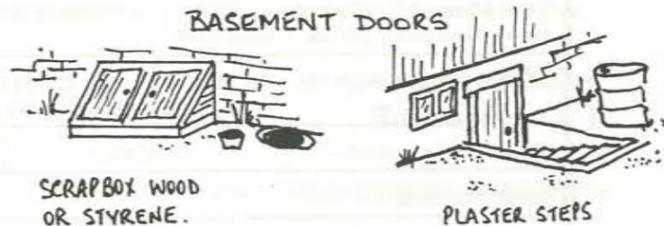
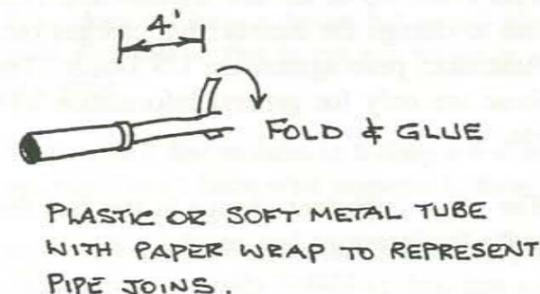
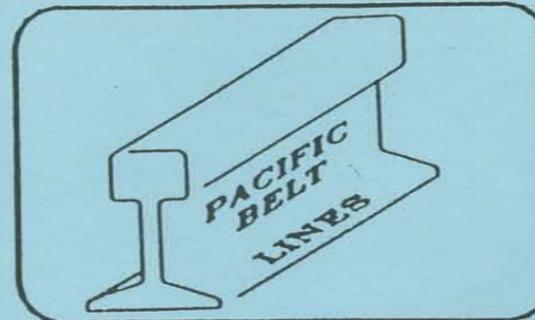


Figure 4: Shows how I make my downpipes from round and square styrene or wire. Thin paper strips are cut with a sharp knife and super glued on about ever 4 scale feet.



Next up we'll discuss wall details and nice and easy ways to dress up structure sides.



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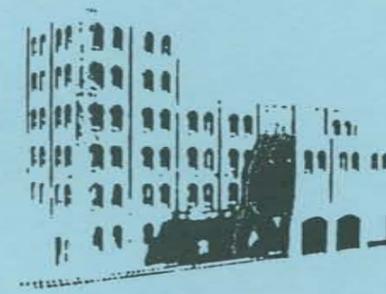
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