

# NMRA BULLETIN

## DEPARTMENT & PROGRAM MANAGERS

Chief Administrative Officer —  
Jenny Hendricks  
P.O. Box 1328  
Soddy Daisy, TN 37384-1328  
O: 423-892-2846 Fax: 423-899-4869  
e-mail: [hq@nmra.org](mailto:hq@nmra.org)

Library - 423-892-2846 or [nmraops@nmra.org](mailto:nmraops@nmra.org)

Education Department Manager —  
Bruce De Young (HO, HO<sub>n3</sub>)  
West Milford, NJ 07480  
H: 973-697-8098 C: 201-803-9766  
e-mail: [educate@nmra.org](mailto:educate@nmra.org)

Howell Day Museum Committee Chair —  
Allen Pollock  
Jefferson City, MO 65102-0243  
H: 573-619-8532  
e-mail: [museum@nmra.org](mailto:museum@nmra.org)

Information Technology Department —  
Ben Sevier  
Kailua Kona, HI 96740  
(808) 747-6824  
e-mail: [itmanager@nmra.org](mailto:itmanager@nmra.org)

Development & Fund Raising Department  
Manager — Alan Anderson  
West Jordan, UT 84088 H: 801-613-0801  
e-mail: [fund@nmra.org](mailto:fund@nmra.org)

Marketing Consultant  
Christina Ganzer Zambri  
Somerset, NJ 08873 H: 732-609-5221  
e-mail: [marketing@nmra.org](mailto:marketing@nmra.org)

Meetings and Trade Show Department  
Manager — Bob Amsler  
Saint Louis, MO 63111-2338  
H: 314-606-6118  
Fax: 314-754-2688  
e-mail: [conv@nmra.org](mailto:conv@nmra.org)

Publications Department Manager —  
Don Phillips  
Mason, OH 45040-2269  
H: 513 226-2233  
e-mail: [pubs@nmra.org](mailto:pubs@nmra.org)

Standards and Conformance Department  
Manager—Carl Smeigh  
Wesley Chapel, FL 33543  
H: 727-512-9729  
e-mail: [tech-chair@nmra.org](mailto:tech-chair@nmra.org)

**Have you changed your address or  
other membership information?**

**Notify Headquarters**

**e-mail: [hq@nmra.org](mailto:hq@nmra.org)**

**Phone: 423-892-2846 (8am–4pm ET)**

**Mail: P.O. Box 1328**

**Soddy Daisy TN 37384-1328**

## REGION PRESIDENTS

Australasian Region—Graham Young  
12 Hickory Court, Buderim QLD 4556  
H: 61 7 5479 0339 M: 61 418 364 375  
e-mail [president@nmra.org.au](mailto:president@nmra.org.au)

British Region—Charles Hendy  
39 Dartmouth Road  
Ruislip, Middlesex, HA4 0DD  
United Kingdom +44 7940032509  
e-mail: [brprez@nmra.org](mailto:brprez@nmra.org)

European Region—Alain Kap, MMR® (HO,  
HO<sub>n3</sub>, On3/30)  
Kammerforststrasse 3a  
D-54439 SAARBURG, Germany  
Phone: +49 6581-603045  
Mobile: +352 691-325089  
e-mail: [erprez@nmra.org](mailto:erprez@nmra.org)

Lone Star Region—Chuck Lind, MMR®  
3680 CR 324, Navasota, TX 77868  
e-mail: [lsrprez@nmra.org](mailto:lsrprez@nmra.org)  
H: (979) 219-3305

Mid-Central Region—Robert Weinheimer  
MMR®  
398 Mount View Dr., Charleston, WV 25314  
H: (304) 343-1428 e-mail: [mcrprez@nmra.org](mailto:mcrprez@nmra.org)

Mid-Continent Region — Brad Slone MMR®  
PO Box 313, Dixon, MO 65459.  
H: 573 308 7144  
e-mail: [mcorprez@nmra.org](mailto:mcorprez@nmra.org)

Mid-Eastern Region — Kurt Thompson,  
MMR®  
350 Ternwing Drive, Arnold, MD 21012  
410-507-3671 (cell)  
e-mail: [merprez@nmra.org](mailto:merprez@nmra.org)

Midwest Region—Steve Studley  
5115 N Echo Bend, Bloomington IN 47404  
H: (812) 876-9726 e-mail: [mwrprez@nmra.org](mailto:mwrprez@nmra.org)

Niagara Frontier Region—Richard Hatton  
205 Country Lane, Stayner ON L0M 1S0  
705-428-9997 e-mail: [nfrprez@nmra.org](mailto:nfrprez@nmra.org)

North Central Region—Scott Kremer  
42490 Ravina Ct, Northville, MI 48168  
H: (734) 420-2314 e-mail: [ncrprez@nmra.org](mailto:ncrprez@nmra.org)

Northeastern Region—John Doehring  
34 Hadley Rd, Pepperell, MA 01463  
H: (978) 877-9148 e-mail: [nerprez@nmra.org](mailto:nerprez@nmra.org)

Pacific Coast Region—Chris Palermo  
230 Alberta Avenue, San Carlos, CA 94070  
H: (650) 208-3150 e-mail: [pcrprez@nmra.org](mailto:pcrprez@nmra.org)

Pacific Northwest Region—Jeff Herrmann  
PO Box 1012, Rathdrum, ID 83858  
H: (714) 651-3903 e-mail: [pnrprez@nmra.org](mailto:pnrprez@nmra.org)

Pacific Southwest Region—Pat Raymer  
2655 El Caminito, La Crescenta, CA 91214  
H: (818) 957-7351 e-mail: [psrprez@nmra.org](mailto:psrprez@nmra.org)

Rocky Mountain Region—Lowell Didas  
4894 S. Forest Circle, Taylorsville, UT 84129  
801-759-7829. e-mail: [rmprez@nmra.org](mailto:rmprez@nmra.org)

Southeastern Region—Larry Burkholder  
206 Coyatee View, Loudon, TN 37774-2172  
H: (865) 408-9903 e-mail: [serprez@nmra.org](mailto:serprez@nmra.org)

Sunshine Region—Jeff Guzowski  
4658 N Candlewood Dr.  
Beverly Hills, FL 34465  
e-mail: [ssrprez@nmra.org](mailto:ssrprez@nmra.org)

Thousand Lakes Region—Jay Manning  
7100 Stoney Creek St, Sioux Falls, SD 57106  
e-mail: [tlrprez@nmra.org](mailto:tlrprez@nmra.org)

**Region Secretaries: send all  
changes in Region officer infor-  
mation to the NMRA Secretary:  
[secy@nmra.org](mailto:secy@nmra.org).**

rev 11/23/20

2021 NMRA National Convention Dates and National Train Show Reservations:  
2021 Rails by the Bay • July 4 – 11, 2021 • Santa Clara, California • <https://www.nmra2021.com>  
Train Show Booth Reservations—Jenny Hendricks Registrar • P.O. Box 1328, Soddy Daisy, TN 37384-1328  
423-892-2846 • [ntsreg@nmra.org](mailto:ntsreg@nmra.org)  
• 2022—St. Louis, MO • 2023—Dallas, Texas

## ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM

**NMRA AP CERTIFICATE REPORT**  
**DECEMBER 2020**  
**GOLDEN SPIKE**

**Northeastern Region**  
 James Joubert, Kingston, New York

**MASTER BUILDER - CARS**  
**North Central Region**

James Marquardt, Fort Wayne, Indiana

**MASTER BUILDER - STRUCTURES**  
**Pacific Coast Region**

Dave Croshere, Sebastopol, California  
 Ted Stephens, Palo Alto, California

**MASTER BUILDER - SCENERY**  
**Pacific Southwest Region**

Paul Buhcke, Tucson, Arizona

**MASTER BUILDER - PROTOTYPE MODELS**  
**Thousand Lakes Region**

Neil Maldeis, Ely, Minnesota

**MODEL RAILROAD ENGINEER - CIVIL**  
**Northeastern Region**

James DeMarco, Kendall, New York

**MODEL RAILROAD ENGINEER - ELECTRICAL**  
**Midwest Region**

J. Scott Walton, Anderson, Indiana

**Northeastern Region**  
 Richard Sissoin, Portsmouth, Rhode Island

**Pacific Southwest Region**  
 Morris Fleishman, Mission Viejo, California

**CHIEF DISPATCHER**  
**Mid-Eastern Region**  
 Bryan Kidd, Nokesville, Virginia

**Midwest Region**  
 Connie Coy, Avon, Indiana

**North Central Region**  
 James Marquardt, Fort Wayne, Indiana

**ASSOCIATION VOLUNTEER**  
**Lone Star Region**  
 Joe Leising, Hurst, Texas

**Mid-Continent Region**  
 Gregory Ohlmacher, Lawrence, Kansas

**Midwest Region**  
 John Coy, Avon, Indiana

**Thousand Lakes Region**  
 John Niemeyer, Bloomington, Minnesota

**MODEL RAILROAD AUTHOR**  
**Mid-Continent Region**  
 Craig Drenkow, Norfolk, Nebraska

**Midwest Region**  
 Phillip Burnside, Avon, Indiana

**Thousand Lakes Region**  
 John Niemeyer, Bloomington, Minnesota

**MASTER MODEL RAILROADER**  
 MMR® #670 Neil Maldeis, Ely, Minnesota  
 MMR® #671 James Marquardt, Fort Wayne, Indiana



# PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

NMRA members can log in at [www.nmra.org](http://www.nmra.org) and click on the **Benefits** tab to view the **NMRA Partnership Program**. Please patronize all of our partners for some fantastic discounts as an NMRA member!

**Bear Creek Model Railroad LLC**

**CatzPaw Innovations**

**Clever Models**

**CMR Products**

**Daylight Sales**

**Deepwoods Software**

**Deluxe Materials**

**Digikeijs**

**East Coast Circuits**

**Gatorfoam**

**Great Decals**

**Green Frog Productions**

**Hot Wire Foam Factory**

**Jason's Brass Poles**

**K.I.S.S. Method Inc**

**LaBelle Woodworking Co.**

**LARC Productions**

**Logic Rail Technologies**

**Micro-Mark**

**Mine Mount Models**

**Minprints**

**MinuteMan Scale Models**

**Model Railroad Benchwork**

**Model Train Catalogue**

**Modelers Decals & Paint**

**Motrak Models**

**MRC (Model Rectifier Corp)**

**Nick and Nora Designs**

**NScale Works**

**OK Engines/Streamliners**

**Old West Scenery**

**Ram Track**

**RR-CirKits**

**Scale Model Plans**

**Scalecoat Paint**

**Scenery Solutions**

**Showcase Miniatures**

**Team Track Models**

**The N Scale Architect**

**The Old Depot Gallery**

**Tichy Train Group**

**Train Installations, LLC**

**Train Show, Inc.**

**Trainmaster TV/MRH Store**

**TSG Multimedia**

**UGears**

**Unreal Details**

**USA Airbrush Supply/**

**Badger Airbrush**

**WiFi Model Railroad LLC**

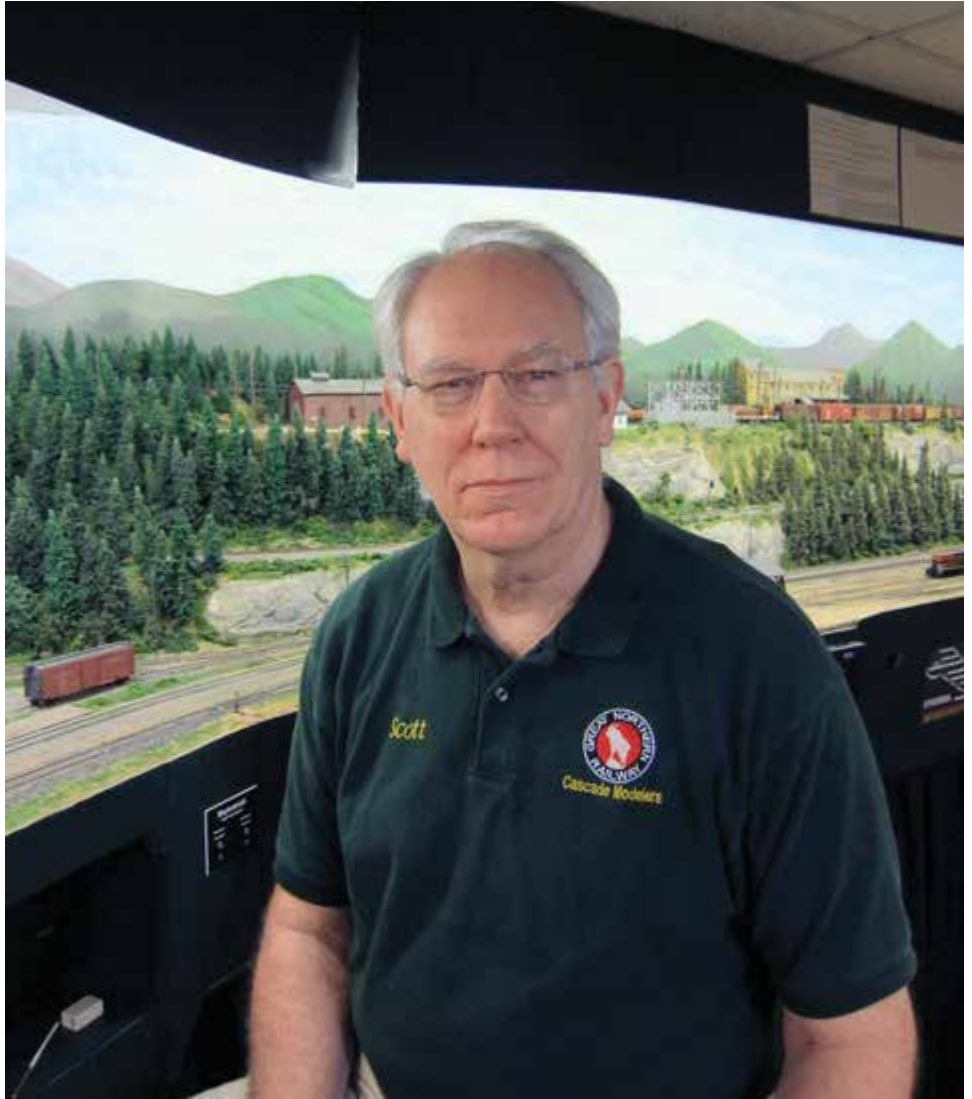
SCOTT KREMER EARNS  
MASTER MODEL RAILROADER® #667

How many times have you seen an article like this say, “It’s not the destination, it’s the journey”? Those words are oh, so true. The journey defines how we get to our destinations. But perhaps more important are the people we meet along the way. People make the difference in how we learn, how much we learn, and how much fun we have in the process. So, this little article is not so much about me; it is about the people I need to thank for making this journey so much fun, enabling me to learn so much, and to do in this hobby what I have done.

Like so many, my model train hobby started at age four with a Lionel set. You know the one: a pair of Santa Fe F-units and a few freight cars. That was 70 years ago. It must have been a stretch for my parents, having just moved into a new post-war home. Dad put together a nice 4x8 plywood table, and I was off. Before long, there was a 2x8 addition, some turn-outs, and some great accessories. That train set made a huge difference in my life. I loved everything about it. I spent hours in the basement, running the train and making changes in the arrangement and structures, mostly Plasticville. Sound familiar? My parents were always supportive of my interest in trains.

My Lionel trains lasted for ten years until a friend, Denny Thomson, decided he wanted to move to HO scale. I thought it was a great idea and, with my parents’ permission, traded my Lionel equipment for enough HO items to build a small layout. My first engine was a Varney Great Northern F3. Little did I know that at age 14, I was starting down a lifelong path of interest in that railway. I didn’t know at the time, or even for ten more years, that the Great Northern had paid for my birth due to my parents being involved in the biggest wreck in the history of the railroad. But that’s another story.

The next five years were a time of learning about the hobby. The original 6x8 board from the Lionel times was converted to my HO layout. During that time, I met Larry Lauer, who many of you older members may remember because of his involvement in the NMRA. Larry lived only two blocks away and was



always generous with his time, answering my never-ending stream of questions.

That brings us to 1966 and the only 21-month period when I was not involved in model railroading. At age 20, I met a girl at college on a blind date. Eight days later, I proposed. She said “yes,” and a year-and-a-half later, we were married. I never thought about trains during that period. Who’s surprised? Of all the things I have done in my life, meeting her was the best thing that ever happened to me. I need to put this in perspective. I still had two years of college to complete. We had very little, but it didn’t matter. Our honeymoon consisted of a long weekend in Northern Michigan. On the drive up North, we were traveling along when I suddenly stopped the car and hopped out.

I said “Look at that, it’s an old passenger car with timber trucks and paper wheels.” That was her first hint I loved trains. We have been married 53 years.

She has been to railroad yards all over the country, more Railroad Prototype Modeler meets and NMRA conventions than I can count, and has endured my long hours in the basement, the money that has gone to the layout, and everything else we modelers inflict on our partners. Despite all that, she has supported my hobby without reservation. She even helped build a fair portion of the approximate 5,000 trees on the layout. The layout and my MMR® would not exist without her support.

During the last 40 years, there have been many people who have helped me along the way. The most important is a friend, Jeff Higgins. Jeff lived in our neighborhood. When he was 13, he and his parents attended one of my first open houses. The layout was basically benchwork and track. I had a little Friday night group that helped in the construction. Jeff’s mom called and asked if Jeff could

join our group. He did, and we put him to work. At 13, there was little that Jeff could not do as well as any adult. It has been more than 35 years since then, and Jeff has been involved every step of the way, especially helping me with problem-solving and getting ready for op sessions. I don't know where I would be without his support.

Almost 20 years ago, I was asked to join a Friday night group called the "Midnight Pocatello Yardmasters." The group has been around for about 35 years and is still going strong. There are typically around 22 members, as some come and go over the years. The members include many with fabulous layouts that we operate. I am the seventh member to receive an MMR®, with the first happening in 1984! The members are extremely good modelers, and I semi-jokingly tell people that our unofficial motto is "Excellence Through Intimidation." The reality is, everyone helps wherever they can, and we all are better modelers because of it. I am also proud the group has a history of helping families who have lost their model railroader and have no idea what they have or how to sell it. We have returned nearly \$100,000 to families in that effort. We only accept enough money to cover the expenses of the process. It is part of giving back to this great hobby.

I was privileged to work for Detroit Edison, now DTE. I am an engineer by education and worked in both fossil and nuclear power plants. Along the way, I transferred to the purchasing department, becoming responsible for all power plant purchases. However, the one thing I was fortunate enough to do over the years was handling most all the company's rail purchases. In addition to wreck and running repair contracts over time, I purchased about 8,000 cars, mostly high-side gons and a few U30Cs. I kid people that I am probably one of a very few modelers who have bought more real cars than models.

Finally, I have been caught up in what I believe is the biggest change in model railroading: prototype operation. In addition to what my Friday night group does, two people have taught me so much about the subject. The first is Jack Ozanich. To be blunt, if you did not know Jack, that is your loss. I was fortunate to attend many op sessions at Jack's place over the last ten or fifteen years. Jack was a retired railroad engineer.

Op sessions were always a minimum of eight hours, with no breaks. They were intense with every rule in force and all the paperwork, and Jack saw everything. I loved it. Not since college have I ever been in an environment where I learned so much. Jack had an unbounded passion for the railroad, and he was willing to pass it on. We lost Jack in 2020. I just hope I can apply what I learned from him to my op sessions.

The other person is Doug Tagsold, who many know from his numerous articles about his various, fabulous model railroads. I have been fortunate to have operated on Doug's amazing layouts and have also been the beneficiary of the operating weekends Doug has organized, where my layout has been involved. I have had the pleasure of watching outstanding operators make my layout come alive, thanks to Doug.

That's the story. The path to my MMR® was a lot of work but mostly a lot of fun. However, the simple truth is that without the encouragement and support and sharing of information and

skills — by many people — I would most likely never have made it. So, thanks to all of you and for those of you who are still on the journey to MMR®, find those friends, those people who can help you get there. In the end, that is more important than the destination itself. For me, I just want one more time to watch that Lionel Santa Fe engine run around the circle and smell the ozone.

**Certificates Earned**  
**Scott Kremer, MMR® 667**

**Association Volunteer**  
**Association Official**  
**Model Railroad Author**  
**Chief Dispatcher**  
**Model Railroad Engineer – Electrical**  
**Master Builder – Scenery**  
**Master Builder – Cars**

**The best gift card you'll ever give.**  
**(Or receive!)**

When you give the gift of an NMRA membership, you're giving someone a gift they can use all year long. From accessing our online photo archives to getting special deals on books, to attending Division and Region meets, an NMRA member has a wealth of benefits to take advantage of.

We'll send your new member a membership card, then bill you separately. Call HQ for details and ordering. Allow 4 weeks for processing.

Perfect as a gift for holidays, birthdays, graduations, Fathers Day, Mothers Day...even Valentine's Day!

This year, give a card they'll treasure all year!



**We make it even more fun.**

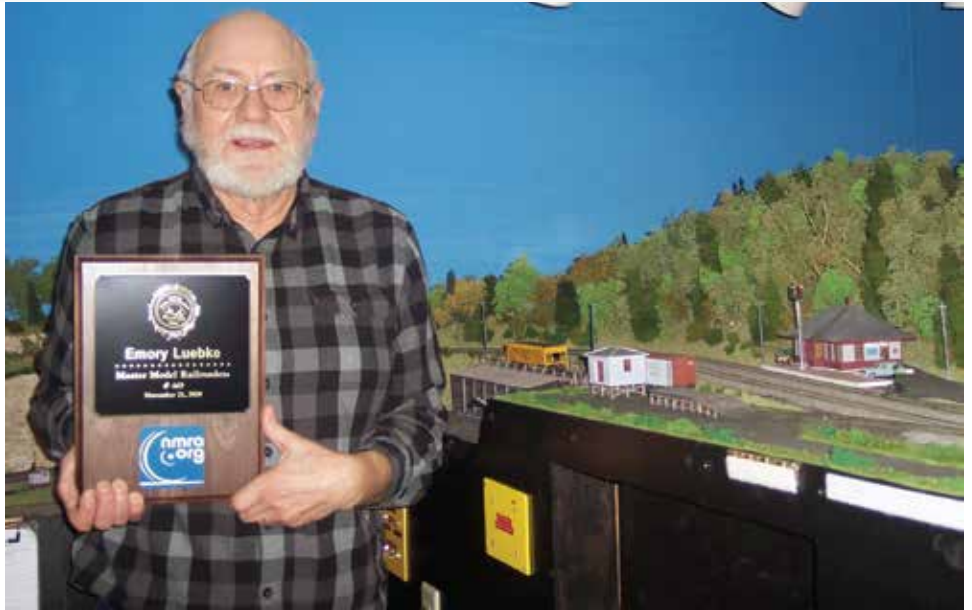
www.nmra.org  
423-892-2846

**EMORY LUEBKE EARNS  
MASTER MODEL RAILROADER® #669**

The railroad bug bit me at a very early age. The first thing I remember regarding railroads is that our car was first in line at a railroad crossing and a steam locomotive passed directly in front of our car, switching at a local paper mill. I stood up on the front seat and placed both my hands on the windshield so I could get a better look. This was in the early 1950s, way before seat belts and child car seats. Next came the Lionel train set at Christmas. It was only put up at Christmas for several years. Then my dad procured a portion of a neighbor's Lionel layout as the neighbor was moving out of state. This layout provided an opportunity for me to experiment with different track designs to service industries. Of course, I had the "Plasticville" buildings. Lionel buildings and accessories were out of my price range. Just prior to entering high school, my friend next door showed me the HO train set he had just obtained.

I was impressed by the cars with sprung trucks and being much more realistic-looking than the Lionel equipment. I was now set on getting into HO. After saving some money from my paper route, I purchased an Athearn train set from my local hobby shop. Yes, it was an F7 with Athearn's rubber-band drive. This locomotive was soon replaced with an Athearn GP7 with a gear drive. I was off and running in this new and more detailed HO scale. I purchased a Mantua Shifter and Mikado as kits and built them; the Shifter was \$7.95, and the Mike was \$12.95. My first HO layout was 4x6 with track just laid on plywood; next came a 5x8 with cork roadbed, but no scenery.

I was a member of a local O-scale club and attended a model railroad interest group at the Boys Brigade; the Boys Brigade is somewhat like the Boy Scouts. I attended both the Brigade model railroad group and the O-scale club through high school and a couple of years beyond. In these two organizations, I began to learn and develop my modeling skills with the help of many mentors. I was a leader for two years of the Boys Brigade model railroad interest group. Then cars and girls became the main focus, and model railroading took a back seat. I didn't actively



get back into model railroading until after marriage and purchasing a home. When we were house-hunting, my priority was the basement. My wife could take care of looking at the upstairs; I wanted to see how the basement was set up to allow building a model railroad. Several homes were rejected due to the basement having too many obstructions or being damp, making it not conducive to my requirements for building a model railroad in it.

I started my present layout in 1980 — a freelanced railroad named the Winnebago Rapids & Northern. This railroad is located in Wisconsin and interchanges with the Soo Line. I like being able to name towns and businesses/industries after my railroad friends and relatives, and a freelanced railroad allows me to do so. The track is hand-laid except where hidden, then three-foot flex track was used. I like hand-laying track and find it relaxing. I also enjoy building kits, kit-bashing, and scratchbuilding structures. Super-detailing locomotives is another part of the hobby I enjoy. Although I enjoy these, I never thought I was a good enough modeler to qualify for MMR®. Through the encouragement and support of Marv and Mark Preussler, both Master Model Railroaders®, I started down the road to MMR® in May 2009 with the Golden Spike award. A few times there was some discouragement, but Marv and Mark were always there with encouragement and got me fired up again. It was not easy for me to make it to MMR® status, but the challenge made me a better modeler.

While I was on the Board of Directors for the Winnebagoland Division of the NMRA, I took on the responsibility of Clinic Chairman and arranged clinicians for the Division meets and the Regional Convention held in Manitowoc, Wisconsin. I liked working with the clinicians and was fortunate to meet many talented people.

The most enjoyable part of the hobby for me is operations. I like the challenges of figuring out how to efficiently set out and pick up cars and the camaraderie it brings.

I have made many friends through the NMRA and had many wonderful times at Division, Region, and National Conventions. Seeing other layouts is always high on my list of enjoyable times at these events. It's great to see what others accomplish, and get ideas for improving my layout. Most of all, I like seeing people who I may only get to visit with during these events. The NMRA has brought many of us together, and I will always be thankful for that and the friends I have made.

**Certificates Earned  
Emory Luebke MMR® 669**

**Association Volunteer  
Model Railroad Engineer – Electrical  
Master Builder – Scenery  
Chief Dispatcher  
Model Railroad Engineer – Civil  
Master Builder – Motive Power  
Master Builder – Structures**

# Notice of 2022 Elections

Rick Coble  
NMRA Secretary

The following NMRA Board of Directors positions are open for election in **2022**:

**At-Large Worldwide Director**

**Atlantic District Director, and**

**Western District Director**

Please check Article III, paragraph 12 of the NMRA Executive Handbook (EHB) located at <https://nmra.org/executive-handbook> for the extent of the districts affected. Qualifications for candidates are listed in the EHB.

## **Thinking of Running for an NMRA Director or Officer Position?**

Click “Organization and Structure” from the NMRA Resources section in the blue “footer” on each page. Click “Board of Directors” listed in the blue “box” on the right side of the page. Click “Thinking about running for an NMRA office”

### **At-Large Worldwide Director**

Submission of candidates’ names for consideration for the position of At-Large Worldwide Director should be made to one of the following no later than **June 1, 2021**:

**National Nominating Committee Chair Mike Brestel at [mbrestel@zoomtown.com](mailto:mbrestel@zoomtown.com) .**

**Atlantic District Nominating Committee at [AtlNominations@nmra.org](mailto:AtlNominations@nmra.org).**

**NMRA Canada Nominating Committee at [CanNominations@nmra.org](mailto:CanNominations@nmra.org).**

**Pacific District Nominating Committee at [PacNominations@nmra.org](mailto:PacNominations@nmra.org).**

### **Atlantic District Director**

Submission of candidates’ names for consideration for the position of Atlantic District Director should be made to the Atlantic District Nominating Committee at **[AtlNominations@nmra.org](mailto:AtlNominations@nmra.org)** no later than **June 1, 2021**.

### **Western District Director**

Submission of candidates’ names for consideration for the position of Western District Director should be made to National Nominating Committee Chair Mike Brestel at **[mbrestel@zoomtown.com](mailto:mbrestel@zoomtown.com)** no later than **June 1, 2021**.

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 NMRA Secretary at **[secy@nmra.org](mailto:secy@nmra.org)** no later than **September 1, 2021**.

Members with questions about the nominations or the election may contact the NMRA Secretary at **[secy@nmra.org](mailto:secy@nmra.org)**.