

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

Library -
423-892-2846 or nmraops@nmra.org

Education Department Manager —
Michael Hohn, MMR®
Morgantown, WV 26501-4535
+1 (304) 296-6303
e-mail: educate@nmra.org

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

Information Technology Department —
Gert 'Speed' Muller
Murphy, TX 75094-3524
+1 (469) 345-0022
e-mail: itmanager@nmra.org

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

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

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

Publications Department Manager —
Riley Triggs
Austin, TX 78704
(512) 636-3521
e-mail: pubs@nmra.org

Standards & Conformance Department
Manager — Andy Zimmerman
e-mail: tech-chair@nmra.org

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

**e-mail: hq@nmra.org
Phone: 423-892-2846 (8am-4pm ET)
Mail: P.O. Box 1328
Soddy Daisy TN 37384-1328**

REGION PRESIDENTS

Australasian Region—Duncan Cabassi
M: 61 424 844 807
e-mail: president@nmra.org.au

British Region—Jonathan Small, MMR®
Millfield, Vyner Road North, Bidston Hill
Prenton, Merseyside, CH43 7PZ
United Kingdom +44 7976 636592
e-mail: brprez@nmra.org

European Region—Alain Kap, MMR®
Kammerforststrasse 3a
D-54439 SAARBURG, Germany
Phone: +49 6581-603045
Mobile: +352 691-325089
e-mail: erprez@nmra.org

Lone Star Region—Donna Orr
2625 Rolling Meadows Dr.
Rockwall, TX 75087
e-mail: lrsprez@nmra.org
H: (972) 342-8598

Mid-Central Region—David Neff
5479 Chestnut Hill Dr., Willoughby, OH 44094
H: (440) 269-1229 e-mail: mcrprez@nmra.org

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

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

Midwest Region—Bob McGeever
309 W Randolph St., Stoughton WI. 53589
H: (608) 873-4529 e-mail: mwrprez@nmra.org

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

North Central Region—David Capron, MMR®

12201 Podunk Ave NE, Greenville, MI 48838
H: (231) 944-8576 e-mail: ncrprez@nmra.org

Northeastern Region—Ed O'Rourke, MMR®
36 Nursery Ln, Syracuse NY 13210
H: (315) 247-0494 e-mail: nerprez@nmra.org

Pacific Coast Region—Frank Markovich, MMR®
1904 Chula Vista Dr., Belmont, CA 94002-3622
H: (408) 505-2727 e-mail: pcrprez@nmra.org

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

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

Rocky Mountain Region—Lowell Didas
4894 S. Forest Circle, Taylorsville, UT 84129
801-759-7829. e-mail: rnrprez@nmra.org

Southeastern Region—Roy Masterson
3502 Glendon Dr., Chattanooga, TN 37411-4114
H: (423) 227-0334 e-mail: serprez@nmra.org

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

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

NMRA Canada President—Ed Molenkamp
Edmonton Alberta T5M 2M9
e-mail: presca@nmra.org

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

2022 NMRA National Convention Dates and National Train Show Reservations:
St. Louis, Missouri August 7 - 14, 2022
Train Show Booth Reservations—Jenny Hendricks Registrar - P.O. Box 1328, Soddy Daisy, TN 37384-1328
423-892-2846 • ntsreg@nmra.org
• 2023—Dallas, Texas

rev 03/26/2022

ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM

NMRA AP CERTIFICATE REPORT

FEBRUARY 2022

GOLDEN SPIKE

Australasia Region

Ian West, North Boambee Valley, New South Wales, Australia

Adam Wuiske, Jandowae, Queensland, Australia

North Central Region

Donald Bergman, Holland, Michigan

Southeastern Region

Edward Prime, Cashiers, North Carolina
Russell Woodlief, Marietta, Georgia

Pacific Northwest Region

Phillip Miller, Pasco, Washington

MASTER BUILDER - MOTIVE POWER

Midwest Region

Dan Hinel, Westfield, Indiana

MASTER BUILDER - CARS

Mid-Central Region

Fred Soward, Louisville, Kentucky

Mid-Continent Region

Robert Spurgat, Saint Joseph, Missouri

North Central Region

Donald Bergman, Holland, Michigan

Pacific Southwest Region

Stephen Drees, Tucson, Arizona

MASTER BUILDER - STRUCTURES

Australasia Region

Ian West, North Boambee Valley, New South Wales, Australia

Mid-Eastern Region

Richard Steinmann, Reston, Virginia

North Central Region

Donald Bergman, Holland, Michigan

Pacific Southwest Region

Steven Bradley, Oceanside, California

MASTER BUILDER - SCENERY

Australasia Region

Peter Jensen, Narara, New South Wales, Australia

Mid-Eastern Region

Mark Nieting, Chesapeake, Virginia

North Central Region

Donald Bergman, Holland, Michigan

Pacific Southwest Region

Steven Bradley, Oceanside, California

MASTER BUILDER - PROTOTYPE MODELS

Australasia Region

Paul Marrant, MMR®, Belmont, New South Wales, Australia

North Central Region

Donald Bergman, Holland, Michigan

Pacific Southwest Region

Steven Bradley, Oceanside, California

MODEL RAILROAD ENGINEER - CIVIL

North Central Region

Donald Bergman, Holland, Michigan

Thousand Lakes Region

W. Kennedy Gauger, Sioux Falls, South Dakota

MODEL RAILROAD ENGINEER - ELECTRICAL

Australasia Region

Craig Mackie, Parkinson, Queensland, Australia

Midwest Region

Phillip Burnside, Avon, Indiana

Thousand Lakes Region

W. Kennedy Gauger, Sioux Falls, South Dakota

CHIEF DISPATCHER

Australasia Region

Craig Mackie, Parkinson, Queensland, Australia

Mid-Central Region

Lee Farnsworth, Erie, Pennsylvania

Mid-Eastern Region

William Mosteller, Fairfax, Virginia

Pacific Northwest Region

John Langlot, Spokane Valley, Washington

Southeastern Region

Roy Masterson, Chattanooga, Tennessee

ASSOCIATION OFFICIAL

Mid-Central Region

Bradley White, Lake City, Pennsylvania

Mid-Eastern Region

Fredrick Humphrey, Chesapeake, Virginia

North Central Region

William McMillan, Novi, Michigan

Pacific Northwest Region

Richard Pitter, Eugene, Oregon

Thousand Lakes Region

Terry Anderson, Harrisburg, South Dakota

ASSOCIATION VOLUNTEER

Lone Star Region

Betty Mitchell, Dallas, Texas

Mid-Eastern Region

Jerry Lauchle, State College, Pennsylvania

Pacific Northwest Region

Robert Deem, Spokane, Washington

Ronald Edgar, Spokane, Washington

Richard Pitter, Eugene, Oregon

Richard Smith, Hamilton, Montana

Southeastern Region

Robert Bell, Waynesville, North Carolina

MODEL RAILROAD AUTHOR

Australasia Region

Merv Bagnall, Hervey Bay, Queensland, Australia

Pacific Northwest Region

Richard Pitter, Eugene, Oregon

Southeastern Region

Roy Masterson, Chattanooga, Tennessee

MASTER MODEL RAILROADER®

MMR® #698 Fred Soward, Louisville, Kentucky

MMR® #699 Robert Spurgat, Saint Joseph, Missouri

MMR® #700 Dan Hinel, Westfield, Indiana

MMR® #701 Donald Bergman, Holland, Michigan

AP QUESTIONS: If you have questions about the AP program or requirements, start with your local or Region. If you still have questions, contact Frank Koch at fjkoch@hotmail.com. If you prefer to write, contact Frank at 4769 Silverwood Drive, Batavia, OH 45103.

ROBERT SPURGAT

EARNs

MASTER MODEL RAILROADER® #699

Several months ago, while visiting a hobby shop in Kansas City, I met a young man, age ten, who was perusing the shelves of HO trains. As we got acquainted, he had a lot of questions about scale, track and power supplies, scenery, etc. After a while, I suggested he visit my home railroad (about an hour's drive) to see how to proceed. Five months later, his parents brought him for a visit. He was ecstatic to see and run an operating layout, and an hour later, he left with two freight cars I gave him. One was a gondola made to the NMRA standards of weight, trucks, and wheels, with magnetic couplers that he should use as a reference for all his cars for good operation; the other car was a plastic stock car kit, also made to NMRA standards, but which he had to assemble himself and send me a picture of the completed car. Hopefully, we had a new young model railroader in the making.

This whole experience reminded me of my quest for excellence in trains and life. I received my first Lionel train set as a ten-year-old for Christmas. Soon, I had friends over to run trains, and I was invited to their homes as well. At the age of 12, however, my father (a teacher) took me to the home of a teacher/friend who was building an HO-scale model railroad in his basement. Seeing a diesel switcher running on scale pre-fab track and milled-wood roadbed did it. I was hooked on scale model railroading! At the time, we lived in Fort Wayne, Indiana — a block away from the Pennsylvania Railroad main line, with lots of trains pulled by big steam.

Shortly thereafter, our family moved to a suburb of New York City, where I was exposed to lots of passenger traffic via commuter trains and subways. My first “planned” model railroad was a 4x8-foot “plywood central” out of *Model Railroader* magazine. It was mostly completed, scennicked, and running by the time I graduated from high school. Then it was off to college.

At Valparaiso University, a handful of us students built a small model railroad to run trains in our “free” time. Our faculty advisor turned out to be Ken Mortimer, an engineering professor who became active on the NMRA Standards Committee in



the 1960s. His home railroad consisted of a small trolley layout where he tested a lot of his ideas.

For the most part, however, college and medical school didn't allow much time for model railroading. After that, I landed in a Public Health Service Hospital delivering care to the Crow Indian Nation in Montana. Chicago, Burlington & Quincy ran a short daily passenger train near there, which eventually got me to explore that branch through the Wind River Canyon in Wyoming, part of which I have modeled on my home layout: the Wind River Northern Railroad.

After marriage, a family, and a move to Missouri, I was back into railroading. I joined the NMRA in 1973. In 1998, I organized a home layout tour in my local area for the KC National Convention, hosted by the Turkey Creek Division. A small layout in my garage allowed me to experiment with Western and mountain railroading ideas and hone my modeling skills. I also joined a local modular club for which I built two 4-foot modules, now incorporated into my home layout. Getting invited to operating sessions hosted by Joe Ringbauer and the late Floyd Brittan in the KC area convinced me that operations would be my new goal. I joined OP-SIG and attended a few “op-til-you-drop” weekends. A move to a new home allowed me to rebuild the Wind River Northern into a more operations-oriented scheme. Soon, I was trying car cards and computer-generated switchlists and holding operating sessions.

Upon retirement in 2004, I became more active in the Turkey Creek Division

of the Mid-Continent Region, eventually becoming its Paymaster. I met enthusiastic members like Larry Diehl, Louis Seibel, Larry Alfred, Jack Ferris, Mark Juett, and Dave Jacobs (D). In a conversation with Marty Vaughn, current Regional AP Chairman, he suggested I start working on the Achievement Certificates. So in 2010, he and his wife, along with MMR's Miles and Fran Hale, spent part of a day scoring my railroad, granting the Golden Spike Award and five certificates. In 2016, I received the certificate for Association Volunteer and in 2022 for Cars. In addition, I have written a few book reviews for the Division newsletter, *Lightning Slinger*.

It has taken me almost 12 years to obtain my Master Model Railroader® Certificate, and there were times when I wasn't sure if it would happen. Most of it was just motivation. Some good people in the Turkey Creek Division showed me it could be done. My family has been very supportive, and my wife, Susan, has encouraged me all the way. Meeting that young boy at the hobby shop last fall was most gratifying; I was glad that I could “pass it on.” I hope that, someday, he will do the same.

Certificates Earned Robert Spurgat, MMR® #699

Master Builder - Cars
Master Builder - Structures
Master Builder - Scenery
Model Railroad Engineer - Civil
Model Railroad Engineer - Electrical
Chief Dispatcher
Association Volunteer

2022 NATIONAL ELECTION RESULTS

MIKE CUMMINGS, NMRA SECRETARY

HERE ARE THE RESULTS OF THE 2022 NMRA ELECTIONS:

AT LARGE WORLDWIDE DIRECTOR – MARTYN JENKINS

ATLANTIC DISTRICT DIRECTOR – MIKE ARNOLD

WESTERN DISTRICT DIRECTOR – MIKE MACKEY, MMR

VOTE TALLY

AT LARGE WORLDWIDE DIRECTOR

• Martyn Jenkins	1,325
• Steve McMullin	1,108
• John Stevens	881
• Misc Write-In	17
• Abstentions	182

ATLANTIC DISTRICT DIRECTOR

• Mike Arnold	120
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WESTERN DISTRICT DIRECTOR

• Mike Mackey, MMR	1,038
• Misc Write-In	18
• Abstentions	62

I want to thank everyone who volunteered their time and energy to distribute, collect, and process all the ballots. They were: (Name — Position)

Steve Studley — National Ballot Chair

Jenny Hendricks — NMRA Headquarters

Brian Stokes — NMRA Canada Ballot Chair

Rai Fenton — British Region Ballot Chair

Alain Kap, MMR — European Region Ballot Chair

Allen Garbutt — Australasian Region Ballot Chair

Rick Coble — Online Ballot Administrator

Please note the results aren't considered official until the Board of Directors meets this August in St. Louis and accepts the report of the Ballot Committee.

Finally, thank you to everyone who took the time to vote.

THREE BIG BENEFITS OF NMRA MEMBERSHIP:



Those are the discounts that manufacturers and hobby shops in our Partnership Program are giving us right now. Partners like Micro-Mark[®]. Model Rectifier Corporation[®]. Badger Airbrush[®]. Unreal Details[®]. Hot Wire Foam Factory[®]. Logic Rail™ Technologies. And over 30 more companies. It's savings that can actually pay for your membership!

And are you taking advantage of our other big benefits? Like 150+ national convention clinic videos. Or over 15 hours of "how-to" videos produced by the biggest names in model railroading videos. Or our directory of model railroad layouts all over the world that you can visit. The list goes on and on.

If you haven't visited www.nmra.org lately, you're missing out on some really great stuff. Starting with a boatload of discounts!



We make it more fun.

NOTICE OF 2023 ELECTIONS

MIKE CUMMINGS, NMRA SECRETARY

THE FOLLOWING NMRA BOARD OF DIRECTORS POSITIONS ARE OPEN FOR ELECTION IN 2023:

CENTRAL DISTRICT DIRECTOR

CANADIAN DIRECTOR, NMRA CANADA PRESIDENT, NMRA CANADA VICE PRESIDENT

REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL (RAC) DIRECTOR

The current Central District Director is term limited and therefore is ineligible to be a candidate for this election. The current Canadian Director, NMRA Canada President, NMRA Canada Vice President and RAC Director are eligible to be a candidate for this election.

Please check Section E of the Corporate Policies & Procedures Manual located at <https://www.nmra.org> for the extent of the districts affected. Candidate Statements are limited to 400 words.

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"

CENTRAL DISTRICT DIRECTOR

Submission of candidates' names for consideration for the position of Central District Director shall be submitted to National Nominating Committee Chair Pat McCarthy at nominations@nmra.org no later than June 1, 2022.

CANADIAN DIRECTOR, NMRA CANADA PRESIDENT, AND NMRA CANADA VICE PRESIDENT

Submissions of candidate statements for the Canadian Director, NMRA Canada President, and NMRA Canada Vice President shall be submitted to Brian Stokes at cannominations@nmra.org no later than June 1, 2022.

REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL (RAC) DIRECTOR

Submissions of candidate statements for RAC Director shall be submitted to Pat Raymer at PSRPREZ@nmra.org no later than September 1, 2022.

Candidates may wish to run for these positions by petition and not be subjected to the decisions of the appropriate nominating committees. Requirements for submitting by petition are contained in the CPPM. All submissions by petition shall be received by the NMRA Secretary at secy@nmra.org no later than September 15, 2022.

Members with questions about the nominations or the election may contact the NMRA Secretary at secy@nmra.org.