

The WIG – WAG

The Official Newsletter of the NMRA – MCoR

Cedar Rapids, Davenport & Moline Area

DON'T FORGET! SET YOUR ALARM!
Cedar Rapids, Davenport & Moline Area
Organizational Meeting

October 8, 2005

Cedar Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce

424 First Avenue NE; Cedar Rapids

10:00 AM to 4:00 PM +/-

**This should be a fun meeting as well as frank discussions
about organizing into an active division.
The MCoR Officers will be joining us, too!**

In This Issue...

Thought of the Month – Allen Merta
Cincinnati Layout Views – Allen Merta
MCoR Area Events

Thought of the Month

In just a few hours, the Cedar Rapids, Davenport & Moline Area will be having an important meeting. You – the membership – will be deciding whether or not we want to take the next step and become an active division.

Granted, it means several of us will have some work to do if we choose to become active.

Frankly, I don't think any CRD&M Area member is afraid of a little work. (We have this work ethic thing going for us, if you know what I mean.) Besides, an organization is only as good as what you put into it. It can be as great as we want it to be or we can just let it die, like it has a few times before. If everyone thought that way, there would be no NMRA or a Mid -Continent Region.

To RSVP for the October 8 meeting, go to www.thewigwag.org.

I had the recent opportunity to sit down with a long term NMRA / MCoR / CRD&M Area member. He asked to meet with me to impart some of his insights on becoming an active

division. For that, I thank him graciously. He indicated that the Lone Wolf approach is prevalent in Eastern Iowa, plus there are several little groups that stay unto themselves. I used to be one of those Lone Wolves, but not any more. I have learned so much about model railroading and made so many friends after I stopped howling at the moon. And all I did was attend two regional conventions - Olathe in 2003 and Topeka 2005 – and my first national – the Cincinnati Limited 2005.

We will be what we choose to be. See you on Saturday!

Layout Views

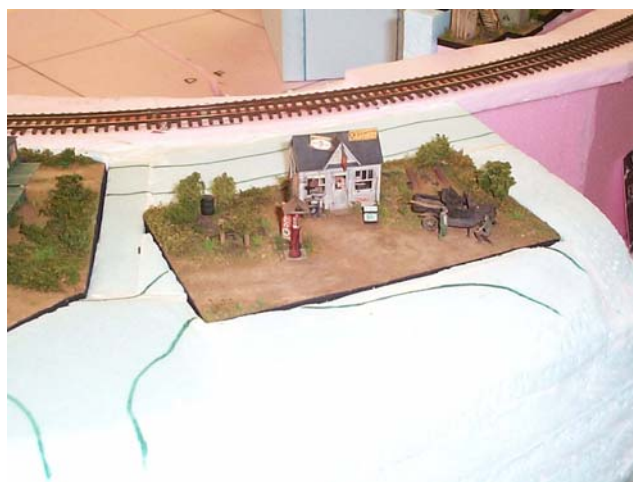
I was fortunate to be able to attend the NMRA national convention in Cincinnati, the Cincinnati Limited 2005. Here are a few of the photos I shot while on layout tours.

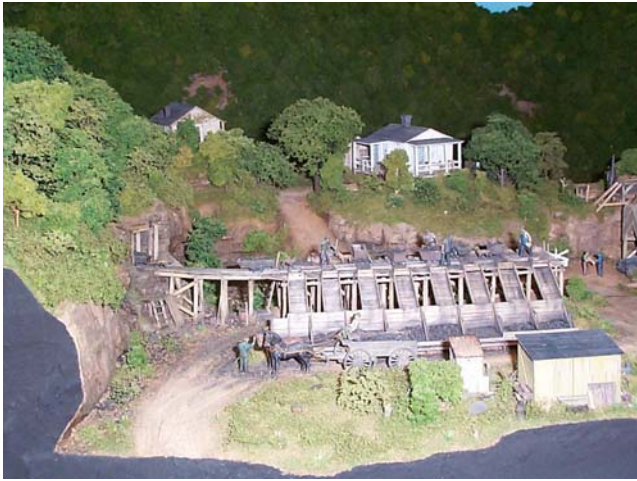


Sam Swanson scratchbuilds absolutely everything on his layout, the Greenbrier & Lost River, including this trestle and the enclosed speeder.



Sam builds all of his structures away from the layout on solid foundations in vignette scenes. When he completes each scene, he blends them into the scenery, as you can see below.





MCoR Area Events

October 22/23 – Platte Valley Division & Tri-City Model Railroad Association Annual Train Show. Fonner Park, 700 East Stolley Park Road, Grand Island, NE 68801. Saturday 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM, Sunday 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM.

Admission Adults \$4, children 6 – 12 \$2. For more information: Mike Malmkar, (308) 530-2151, malmkar95@hotmail.com.

November 5 - Kate Shelley Division's 13th Annual Fall Meet. United Community School, US Hwy. 30 between Ames and Boone, IA. 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM. Admission \$5.