

Cowcatcher Division

Division One of the Lone Star NMRA Region



Division 1 Whistle

Vol. 2. No. 11 November 2018

Division 1 Meeting
Saturday, November
10, 2018. 10 am - 1 pm
at the Texas Western
Model Rail-
road Clubhouse, 6808
Forest Hill Drive,
Forest Hill, TX 76140

**Program: Cumbres
& Toltec Trip Slide
Show by D1 Secretary
John Garfield**

www.cowcatcherdivision.org

Show And Tell
From the September D1 Meeting
with John Garfield



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NMRA Lone Star Region
Cowcatcher
Division 1
Whistle

Vol. 2 No. 11 Nov. 2018

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Director's Report



Fall has arrived! The State Fair and the Plano Train Show have come and gone and we are staring the holiday season square in the face!

Many thanks to everyone that helped make the Fall Train Show a huge success. Divisions 1 & 3 added some new members and several of them have already attended their first division meetings. It's great to add new members, and even better to see them participating in division activities.

I'd like to take a minute to mention a couple of things of importance. First, please mark your calendar for December 8th. This is the date of our annual Christmas party. If you missed last year's event, don't make it two in a row!! We have already begun gathering door prizes and pro-curing items for the meal as we speak. You'll not want to miss this great event.

Next, are you taking advantage of your NMRA membership to its fullest? Are you using the resources of the member section of NMRA.org which are only available to you once you log in? Have you logged in to the site with your password? Sure, you can access the site, but the member section is a wealth of information that's available to you if you'll just log in. The videos of clinics are just the tip of the iceberg. Don't deny yourself this valuable opportunity to tap into the knowledge base of some of the best modelers from across the organization. Also, are you taking advantage of the NMRA discounts by retailers across the country to members just like yourself? It's just another benefit of joining the NMRA. You can find a complete list of retailers, and their discounts, after you log in.

I'd like to thank Tom Pearson for a great clinic on DCC Basics in October and I hope that you are looking forward to November's program which will be John Garfield's talk on his recent excursion to Chama, New Mexico to ride the Cumbres and Toltec Railroad. Oh yeah, he won the tickets for the trip at last year's Christmas party... hint, hint, hint!

We've got a fantastic division and it's getting stronger each month! Help it to be better by attending meetings and showing your support!! Our next meeting is Saturday, November 10th at 10am at the Texas Western Model Railroad Club.

See you soon!

Keep training,

Mike Mackey NMRA

Director, Cowcatcher Division 1

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Programs / Clinics

Cowcatcher Division 1 Program for November 10, 2018

Clinic Overview

Cumbres and Toltec Scenic Railroad Slideshow Presentation

This month John Garfield will present a slide presentation on his experiences from his recent trip to ride the this narrow gauge scenic railway.

John Garfield has been a model railroader since about the age of 10. Since moving to Fort Worth in 1987, he was a member of the Lockheed-Martin Model RR Club. In 2013, when the LMRA had to move and reorganize, he was President of the new Cowtown club for two years. For the last 15 years he has been an NMRA member and co-chaired the 2016 LSR Convention. John models in HO Scale with a home layout featuring the Erie RR from Buffalo, N. Y. (his home town) to Salamanca, N. Y. He is presently Secretary of Division 1 and Education Chairman for the LSR.

Dick Brannan

Division 1 Program Director



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AP Flyer by Leo Palitti

It wasn't your average weekend. The O Scalars have a small but fun convention here in Ft Worth every October. This group seems to fly under the radar and not many people know about this annual convention. The O Scale Convention had open houses both Friday and Saturday nights so Lorrie and I spent Friday night visiting Mike Ross' fabulous O scale layout. Mike has a wonderful layout coming together and it doesn't take much imagination to see he's on to something very special. His hand laid track is beautiful and weathered to perfection. Mike Ross is working on his MMR and I suspect he will be earning it! We spent over an hour visiting Mike and his visitors. Even though Lorrie and I model a different scale, there was no shortage of things to talk about and ideas for us to share with each other.



small 10x12 room (expansion has just been started). During the Narrow Gauge Convention, this small layout was packed with people but we were able to get a short look and what we saw was truly amazing. If George Jetson was a model railroader, I would guess his layout would look something like the Pagosa Creek Timber Company Railroad. Check out the video at the end of this article for a good look at Pauls work. I would not do the layout justice trying to describe it, it's simply amazing. So, back to Saturday and the reason for this month article. After Chuck and Paul spent some time visiting our layout we all headed to the Texas Western Model Railroad Club for one of their legendary cookouts. As usual, the food was good and plentiful but over dinner we got into a discussion about becoming a Master Model Railroader.

Chuck pointed out that Paul has everything he needs to be an MMR, he just needs to do the paperwork. Hopefully Paul gets busy because he is well deserving of the MMR award.

(AP Flyer continued on Page 5.)

On Saturday Chuck Lind and his friend Paul Cesak came to visit our layout. Chuck is the President of the NMRA Lone Star Region and an On3 modeler. Chuck is a Master Model Railroader (MMR) and had his latest contest entry with him for the O Scale Convention. It was a beautiful hobo scene with an abandoned boxcar in which he was awarded First Place in Minnesota at the annual Narrow Gauge Convention this year. Paul also models On3 and both of these guys have great layouts. Chucks layout is dual gauge O/On3 and as you might guess, it is awesome! Chuck has award winning structures and scenery throughout his Tall Pine Lumber Co. Railroad. The pike fits in a large out building and has great lighting with lots of aisle space for visitors to move around freely.

Paul Cesak's layout is also very well done. Lorrie and I were able to visit the layout during the Narrow Gauge Convention in Houston in 2015. Paul's Pagosa Creek Timber Company Railroad has beautiful structures and scenery and it's all in a



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(AP Flyer continued from Page 4.)

Lorrie and I are almost ready for our rolling stock AP. Lorrie has her four kit builds complete but as a formality, she still needs to build two more scratch built cars (she's already qualified with two scratch built cars at the LSR) and then we'll be calling the judges. Our Rolling Stock AP paperwork is ready. Once we secure our rolling stock AP, next up for us will be author. Hopefully we'll be calling those judges again real soon!

The Award Program comes with a lot of paperwork to fill out. When entering a contest, good paperwork is as important as your entry. Making paperwork look like fun is like making a trip to the dentist look like fun. Don't forget next May we will be having a clinic on filling out AP paperwork and paperwork for the contest room at next year's Lone Star Region Convention. Doing paperwork as a group may be fun, who knows? Get your contest room entries ready and your AP projects in order for the May, 2019 meeting!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eHq2eKtjHOM&fbclid=IwAR0GkcuRcNYkn-M7FoXLkCioVjT9RxttPrPRyT3SZxUkgC-ewCv1QrcU0VI>

[Pagosa Creek Timber Company ON3 - YouTube](#)

Paul Cesak's Pagosa Creek Timber Company On3 layout is a true master piece in the model railroad world. This fully automated model railroad and its craftsman buildings is a true delight to visit ...
www.youtube.com

Leo Palitti

Division 1 Achievement
Program Advisor



Cowcatcher Division

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Calendar of Events & Train Shows



November

1st – Texas Western Model RR Club Business Meeting, 6808 Forest Hill Dr, Forest Hill, TX 76140, 7 – 9 pm.
www.twmrc.org

3rd – YMR Longhorn Division Meeting, Texas Western Model RR Clubhouse, 6808 Forest Hill Dr, Forest Hill, TX 76140, 10 am – 12 pm, John Skiba, Organizer
westsidelumberco@gmail.com

10th – NMRA Lone Star Region Cowcatcher Division 1 November Meeting, at the Texas Western Model RR Club, 6808 Forest Hill Dr, Forest Hill, TX 76140 10 am – 1 pm.
www.cowcatcherdivision.org

8th thru January 11 – 2018 Holiday Trains; Whites Chapel United Methodist Church 185 S. White Chapel, Southlake, TX, For more info, contact Mike Haefner, 817-480-4425
www.whitechapellumc.com/calendar

18th – Cowtown Model RR Club General Meeting, Handley Center, 3024 Forest Avenue, Ft Worth, TX 76112 7 pm – 9 pm
<http://cmrrc.webs.com/>

17th – NMRA Lone Star Region Division 3 Meeting, Christ the Servant Lutheran Church, 821 S. Greenville Ave, Allen, TX 75002, 10 am – 1 pm,

December

1st & 8th – The Dallas-Fort Worth and North Pole Railroad, Open to the Public. Careflite, 3110 S. Great SW Pkwy, Grand Prairie, TX (on Grand Prairie Airport); Hrs: 12 pm-4 pm. Admission: Free
www.careflite.org/railroad.aspx

1st & 2nd – 42nd Annual OKC Train Show, Cox Pavilion, Oklahoma State Fairgrounds, OKC, OK, Hrs: Sat. 9 am – 5 pm, Sun. 10 am – 4 pm; \$12. Under 12, Free
www.okctrainshow.com

1st – YMR Longhorn Division Meeting, Texas Western Model RR Clubhouse, 6808 Forest Hill Dr, Forest Hill, TX 76140, 10 am – 12 pm, Christmas Party, John Skiba, Organizer
westsidelumberco@gmail.com

6th – Texas Western Model RR Club Business Meeting, 6808 Forest Hill Dr, Forest Hill, TX 76140, 7 – 9 pm.
www.twmrc.org

8th – NMRA Lone Star Region Cowcatcher Division 1 November Meeting, at the Texas Western Model RR Club, 6808 Forest Hill Dr, Forest Hill, TX 76140 Christmas Party 7 pm
www.cowcatcherdivision.org

15th – NMRA Lone Star Region Division 3 Meeting, Christ the Servant Lutheran Church, 821 S. Greenville Ave, Allen, TX 75002, 10 am – 1 pm,

17th – Cowtown Model RR Club General Meeting, Handley Center, 3024 Forest Avenue, Ft Worth, TX 76112 7 pm – 9 pm
<http://cmrrc.webs.com/>

Dallas Train Show Plano Centre

January 19th – 20th,
2019

Saturday: 10 am – 5 pm
Sunday: 10 am – 4 pm

2000 E. Spring Creek Pkwy,
Plano, TX

Admission: Adults \$10.00
12 and under free w/paid Adult
Admission

www.dfwtrainshows.com

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NMRA, Division 1 Minutes, October 8, 2018

Mike Mackey, President, opened the meeting shortly after 10:00 AM due to heavy rain with a thank you to Discount Model Trains for their support. He then called on Darrel Cowles, President of Texas Western Model Railroad Club, host, who noted that membership to the club is open.

Treasurer Report: Ken Kaiser, Treasurer, noted that the current balance is \$6000+

Plano Train Show, Oct. 29th/30th is in need of volunteers from the club to man the NMRA booth. The Division earns two shares, which were \$2300 last year, for the two shows by the North Texas Council of Model RR Clubs, and hopes to do like-wise this year. Chris Atkins, Chairman, earns many of the needed hours, but help is needed at the NMRA table. It is also noted that Donna Orr, Division 3, is organizing the 2019 LSR Conference and is looking for volunteers to help with that show. This show is the first one to operate on a reduced agenda to try to promote greater participation. It was noted that volunteer hours for all sponsored events earn time toward an AP Certificate

Mike noted that Dr. Mike Ross has volunteered as Membership Chairman. Dr. Ross provided an up-date to the O Scale Convention. Mike noted that the Division needed to buy a screen projector. Ken Kaiser noted a price of \$440 including extra cord. The machine is self contained and does not need a laptop to operate from tabs. Purchase was approved.

Mike noted the loss of Charles Lynn, Jr., 45, son of President Chuck Lynn, from cancer. Donations were accepted and matched by the Division to the American Cancer Society in his name.

Donuts and coffee are provided by the Division, donations to the fund are appreciated. Mike noted that there are numerous model items for sale including the shelves used for display. 10% of the proceeds will go to the Division. Ken Kaiser noted the car registration competition set up in back, winner to be announced at the end of the meeting.

Ken also noted that a Rails Mountaineer is being organized for September 2019 if anyone is interested. Discount is available until Oct. 12, 2018. See Ken for details.

Show and Tell was held with three participants.

Mike noted that he is working to organize an NMRA International Conference in Dallas/Fort Worth for 2023. He noted that he has contacted the NMRA Conference Chairman but has much already organized including possible trip for rail and non-rail participants, transportation, hotel and food. He noted that he has contacted both the Gaylord to host the conference and hold the traditional train show, and, Spencer Christian, well known national model railroad speaker and TV personality (Tracks Ahead), has agreed to waive his normal speaker fee for payment of transportation, food and lodging. Mike noted that he has over 35 layouts lined up for visitation and/or operation with OpSig. He noted that he has spoken to a transportation provider for discounted bus service with a list of sites in both Dallas and Fort Worth, and would like to feature AT&T stadium for a dinner and has spoken to Rod Stewart's production manager (Rod is a well known modeler) to put on a show there. Competition is with South Michigan but NMRA feels good about this proposal. Plans are for this to be a Texas themed conference. One has not been held in Texas since Houston many years ago and is being well received. He is negotiating a possible 80/20 local/national split of the proceeds. A petition was handed out and acquired 41 names from Division 1. Donna Orr of Division 3 will do the same next Saturday to show support. A petition of only 25 names is necessary to make a proposal.

Following this, the raffle was held with gift certificates by Discount Model Trains of \$25, \$15 and \$10.

Presented by

John Garfield

Division 1 Secretary

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From Duane Richardson

Division 3, MMR

You have heard me make a pitch to get involved in the Achievement Program (AP) and you have probably heard me say that it will make you a better modeler. This is a very true statement. Just ask any MMR and they will confirm this. It goes beyond that. I was fortunate enough today to give a friend of mine, Jeff Palmer, his MMR plaque. When asked to say a few words he mentioned several other pieces that are also benefits to the program. It's the friends and the support system you build along the way. The friendships that we make in the hobby are just as important as the hobby itself. It's those friends that you can rely on to look at your work and give you an honest opinion. They know they don't have to say something nice for fear of hurting your feelings. This is how we learn. It's how we get better. So, to paraphrase, it takes a village to raise a Master Model Railroader. None of us got here on our own and each of us has signed a promise to help anybody who wants to follow us on your journey.

When you first look at the AP it seems like a really daunting task. I've talked with guys who have said that they don't have enough time left in their life to get it all done. Do you have 9 months? That is the shortest time I've known of a modeler starting from



nothing and achieving his MMR. For most of us it takes years. However, it's all time well spent. Each step along the way to building a layout are all things that can count towards the AP. I know of some that think that it only counts towards new work. This is not true. It doesn't matter how old the work is as long as it's good enough to merit. So, if you have a layout at home or a club then you can have it judged.

I know the word judge scares some people. Nobody likes it when someone makes a comment about how we raise our kids. Well, these models are like our babies some times and it's hard to put it on a table and have someone look it over with a critical eye. Larry Swigert likes to say that it's an evaluation instead of a judging. I like the sentiment there.

This isn't as harsh a deal as you might fear. A judges job is to look for flaws but it's also to instruct. We should give you feedback of what can be done better and how if you want. The other nice thing is that you can have a model judged more than once. If you get it scored, and you aren't happy with that number, you can fix the model and have it judge again... and again...

The only downside to the AP is all the paperwork and boy is there paperwork. When you look at the forms page on the website you will see 2 types of forms. There is a "Record and Validation" set and a "Statement of Qualification (SOQ)" set. Let me save you some work. Don't worry about the Record and Validation. It's not needed when you submit your paperwork. It's just a checklist for you. All you need to submit is the SOQ plus any score sheets and other documentation needed (which varies from one category to another). If you have any questions on anything involved in with the AP or modeling in general, please feel free to reach out to me. My contact information can be found on the LSR website on the officers page or in the Marker Lamp under Achievement Program Chair.

(Continues on Page 9....)

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(Continued from Page 8.....)

Lastly, if you have made it this far, and I hope you have, you might be asking yourself, "Where do I begin?" That's a really good question and the answer is that it depends. If you have a layout now then we need to evaluate the work you have and I can help you develop a game plan on how to achieve your goals. If you are starting from scratch I would like to suggest starting with Prototype Modeler. Even if you are not a Prototype guy it is a good place to start. Models can be part of more than one category. So, if you pick the right project you can cover a lot of ground.

Take my nephew for example. When I talked with him about this, he liked the idea and after some research he picked Rico, CO. which was a division point on the Rio Grande Southern. It had a yard which featured turnouts, a cross-over and a 3 way stub switch and there was enough trackage there for him to lay the 40 feet he needed for HO. So there's Prototype Modeler, Civil and Electrical. Civil and Electrical are usually done together because so many of the required drawings overlap. If he makes it big enough he could get his 32



square feet of scenery. There were a couple of mines, the depot, the engine house, the water tank, the coal pocket and several other structures. Is it enough to get Structures? Maybe if you build enough 'town' buildings to get all 12 you need.

He could build a few car kits and scratch-build a few for the scene which would give him Cars. If he writes articles for the Marker Lamp, or this news letter, or for some of the magazines you can get points towards Author. Build a website for it and you can get half your Author points there.

So, to recap, Prototype Modeler, Civil, Electrical, Scenery, Structures, Cars and Author. That's all 7 and 1 from each of the 4 categories. One project and you can be an MMR.

I know it really looks like a huge challenge but it really is a fun journey. Please feel free to reach out to me any time with any questions. I'm here to help you.

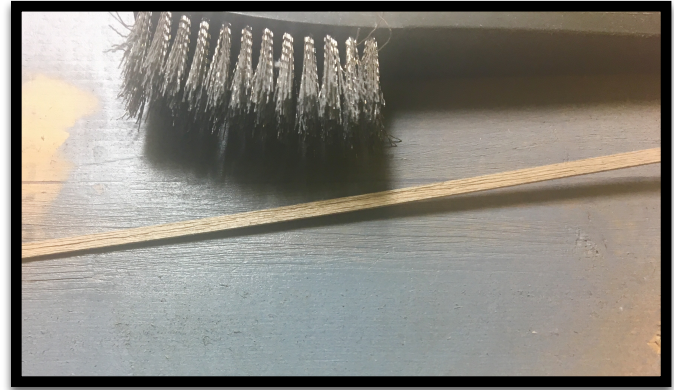
Duane Richardson

MMR



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Tips & Tricks: A quick weathering tip is to use a white oil color stick to depict peeling paint. Then use Bar Mills Shingles on the roofing and stain with a few drops of ink & alcohol technique to show wear and tear. Add a few figures a few roof vents and put onto your layout. - *Chris Galvin*



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Area Model Railroad Clubs/News

Cowtown Model Railroad Club

Meets at the *Handley Community Center*, Upstairs
3024 Forest Avenue, Ft Worth. Website:

<https://cmrrc.webs.com>

CLMRR

Meets Tuesdays, Thursdays & Saturdays. The layout is located at
3904 Vista Ridge Ln, Alvarado, TX 76009 For information please
contact Lee Martin at [817-666-5367](tel:817-666-5367)

Dallas/Fort Worth O Scale Club

Normally meets two Saturdays per month in Richardson. Contact: Brady
McGuire, Tel: [903-868-2726](tel:903-868-2726), Email: bradyprrm1a@cableone.net or
or contact: Stan Schwartz, Email: ss124@sbcglobal.net for dates and
times. 1/48 12X41 lt/wt modular, 2-3 shows/year.

Denton Area Model Railroad Club

Meets the 2nd Tuesday of every month at 7 pm in the Denton Senior
Center Downtown. HO & N Scale modular layouts. Facebook Page
and Website: <https://www.facebook.com/damrrc/>

North Texas Chapter of the National Railway Historical Society

Meets 7:30 - 10:00 PM, First Tuesday of each month, often (but not always) at the
Grapevine Tourist & Visitors Information Center at Main St. and the FWWR railroad
tracks. Website: <https://ntxnrhs.org>

Texas Western Model Railroad Club

Meets Meets every Thursday & Saturday from 4 pm - 9 pm, Located at 6808 Forest
Hill, 76140. Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/texaswesternmodelrailroadclub/>
Website: <https://www.twmrc.org>

Trinity N-Trak

Meets at Hobby World, Ft Worth at 6:30 PM. Check our website for time.
Website: <https://www.trinityntrak.com>

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Area Hobby Shops

Division 1 Sponsor

Discount Model Trains

4641 Ratliff Lane
Addison, TX 75001
972-931-8135

Hours : M-Sat. 10 AM - 6 PM



Angelo Hobbies
5600 Rufe Snow Drive Dr. #106
North Richland Hills, TX 76180

Hobbytown USA
746 Grapevine Hwy
Hurst, TX 76054

Hobby World
5658 Westcreek Dr. Ste. #500
Fort Worth, TX 76133

M-A-L Hobby
108 South Lee
Irving, TX 75060

Model Train Crossing
1113 W. Pipeline Road
Hurst, TX 76053

Hobbytown USA
500 E. Round Grove Rd
Lewisville, TX 75067

Hobbytown USA
677 Sherry Ln
Fort Worth, TX 76114