

# NMRA BULLETIN

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**Have you changed your address or  
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**Notify Headquarters**

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## REGION PRESIDENTS

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Thousand Lakes Region—Jay Manning  
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2019 NMRA National Convention Dates and National Train Show Reservations:  
2019—Salt Lake City, UT • July 7–13, 2019 • <http://www.nmra2019slc.org>  
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)

• 2020—St. Louis, MO • 2021—Santa Clara, CA • 2022—Birmingham, England

## ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM

### NMRA AP CERTIFICATE REPORT

March 2019

#### GOLDEN SPIKE

##### Mid-Central Region

Ron Goble, Xenia, Ohio  
Rich Pejeau, Twinsburg, Ohio  
Keith Seitzer, Twinsburg, Ohio  
Richard Strous, Xenia, Ohio

##### Mid-Eastern Region

Frank Benenati, Damascus, Maryland  
Kevin O'Connor, Chapel Hill, NC  
Henry Reeves, Belmont, North Carolina

##### Pacific Northwest Region

Dan Ainslie, Gig Harbor, Washington  
Cliff Aker, Oak Harbor, Washington  
Dave Audley, Calgary, Alberta, Canada  
Tom Barrett, Port Orchard, Washington  
Jon Bentz, Edmonds, Washington  
John Biagio, Marysville, Washington  
Michael Boyle, Bainbridge Island, Wash.  
Larry Cohenour, Sedro Wolley, Washington  
Bert Cripe, Port Orchard, Washington  
Bob Hadlow, Calgary, Alberta, Canada  
Bruce Himmerick, Bremerton, Washington  
Bob Jensen, Poulsbo, Washington  
Al Jones, Marysville, Washington  
Karl Kleemen, Bellingham, Washington  
Al Matchett, Calgary, Alberta, Canada  
Ron Nelson, Camino, Washington  
Mike O'Brien, Mt. Vernon, Washington  
Dennis Reeve, Tacoma, Washington  
Rick Snyder, Shelton, Washington  
Mike Western, Calgary, Alberta, Canada  
Dan Weston, Bremerton, Washington

##### Southeastern Region

Jay Wagner, Decatur, Georgia

##### Thousand Lakes Region

Glenn Wolfe, La Crosse, Wisconsin

#### MASTER BUILDER - STRUCTURES

##### Pacific Northwest Region

Dennis Reeve, Tacoma, Washington

#### MASTER BUILDER - SCENERY

##### Mid-Eastern Region

James Babcock, Holly Springs, NC  
Charles Rausch, Chapel Hill, North Carolina  
Scott Unger, Allentown, Pennsylvania

##### Pacific Northwest Region

John Biagio, Marysville, Washington  
Raymond Clifford, Ledoc County, Alberta  
Bill Hupe, Bremerton, Washington

Al Jones, Marysville, Washington  
Mike O'Brien, Mt. Vernon, Washington  
Dennis Reeve, Tacoma, Washington

##### Thousand Lakes Region

Thomas Gasior, Hopkins, Minnesota

#### MODEL RAILROAD ENGINEER - CIVIL

Alan Matchett, Calgary, Alberta, Canada

#### MODEL RAILROAD ENGINEER - ELECTRICAL

##### Pacific Northwest Region

Tom Barrett, Port Orchard, Washington  
Alan Matchett, Calgary, Alberta, Canada

#### ASSOCIATION OFFICIAL

##### Sunshine Region

Mark Lewalski, Safety Harbor, Florida

#### ASSOCIATION VOLUNTEER

##### Mid-Central Region

Shirley Folger, Beaver Creek, Ohio  
Ronald Sturgis, Middletown, Ohio

##### Mid-Eastern Region

Doug Algire, York, South Carolina  
Tim Himmelberger, Lebanon, Pennsylvania

Chris Kilgore, Pagosa Springs, Colorado

##### Sunshine Region

Mark Lewalski, Safety Harbor, Florida

#### MODEL RAILROAD AUTHOR

##### Mid-Central Region

Dave Puthoff, Cincinnati, Ohio  
P.J. Mattson, MMR®, Swedesboro, New Jersey  
Robert Price, Collinswood, New Jersey

##### Pacific Northwest Region

Dale Kreutzer, MMR®, Port Orchard, Washington

#### MASTER MODEL RAILROADER®

MMR® #635 Thomas W. Gasior  
MMR® #636 Dennis Ivison

AP QUESTIONS: If you have questions about the AP program or requirements, start with your local or Region AP manager.

If you still have questions, contact Frank Koch at [fjkoch@hotmail.com](mailto:fjkoch@hotmail.com)

If you prefer to write, contact Frank at 4769 Silverwood Drive, Batavia, OH 45103.

## 2019 Election Results

### Amended Report

Rick Coble, Secretary

This is an amended report of the results of the 2019 NMRA Board of Directors Election. Vote tallies for board positions were omitted in the earlier report.

The results of the voting, which took place earlier in the year, for three board positions are shown below:

#### At Large Worldwide Director

Jack Hamilton, MMR® 1,082 votes  
Ray deBlicke 506 votes  
Michael Hohn 347 votes  
Mike Mackey, MMR® 395 votes  
Gordy Robinson 879 votes  
Misc Write-In 7 votes

#### Atlantic District Director

Mike Arnold 68 votes

#### Western District Director

Stephen Priest, MMR® 1,051 votes  
Misc Write-In 53 votes

Please note the results aren't considered official until the Board of Directors meets this July in Salt Lake City and accepts the report of the Ballot Committee.



**JOHN PAGANONI  
EARNS MMR® #615**

I grew up never out of sight of the Central Vermont Railway trackage in the days when steam power was prime. I could never get enough of watching the N5a and M3a consolidations as they passed and worked in my hometown of Montville, Connecticut, and in the Southern Division yards in New London. There was also a P1a 0-8-0 yard shifter in New London. The beauty of these engines and the movement of the valve gear were captivating and have resulted in a lifetime of great memories that early on drew me into model railroading.

My first train set was a Marx windup freight train since things were financially stretched during and right after World War II. I received a small Lionel set at the onset of the 1950s, and then one day, a friend brought a Varney “Little Joe” Docksider to school when I was in the 7th or 8th grade. That was the real catalyst that got me into scale model railroading. The next day after I saw that engine, my friend and I hitchhiked into the city and went to the hobby shop where he got his Docksider. In the showcase was a Mantua Shifter that had a separate valve gear kit. To my father’s chagrin, I sold my entire Lionel set to be able to buy the Shifter and valve gear kit. While it was beautiful, it wasn’t CV, but now I was into 2-rail

scale modeling. Then Varney came out with the “Old Lady” consolidation — the closest at the time to those CV Alco consolidations. They were expensive back then, and it took a lot of hours in the hay fields and cow barns to save enough money to buy one. I still have the Shifter and the “Old Lady,” and I super-detailed them in later years and used them as entries in the Achievement Program toward a Master Builder-Motive Power Merit Award. My first scratchbuilding project was a CV wood caboose that was featured in the July 1953 *Model Railroader* by Eric Stevens. Combined with the “Old Lady,” I had the beginnings of a CV prototype model train.

Model railroading slowed down drastically for me when it came time for college. Working three jobs to help pay for school used up what little spare time I had. When I finished undergraduate work, the Vietnam War was heating up, and I joined the Air Force. After a full career in the Air Force, I was asked to work on a highly classified National Program with the CIA. Both of these careers left little time for model railroading except for building freight cars, drawing and building structures, and layout planning. I did, however, take advantage of being in one place while working for the Agency to participate in the NMRA Achievement Program.

Circa 1985, I stopped in a hobby shop in California and picked up a copy of *Model Railroader* and *Railroad Model*

*Craftsman* for my trip home. On the way, I saw a Custom Brass ad for brass CVN5a and M3a engines and couldn’t wait to get home and tell my wife Nancy about this find of a lifetime. Nancy called to order a couple of these engines, but they only had one M3a left. She bought it and then found out that New England Rail Service was selling both classes of these CV engines in brass, so she ordered a couple of these while I was back on the road. It’s great when your wife and family support your hobby, and I consider myself blessed in that respect. Nancy and I often took vacations to search for Central Vermont relics of the past up in New England. One year, she saw a photo in a magazine of maintenance-of-way car that I really wanted to scratchbuild — a Central Vermont flanger. She called the Green Mountain Railway and received permission to measure and photograph this car. On this excursion into CV country, even Nancy’s mother came along to help with the measurements!

In November 2016, we decided that I really needed to build this CV layout since I had all the engines, unique CV cars, and necessary scratchbuilt models of prototype structures. With Nancy’s help, we selected a layout room and began building a very compressed version of the CV New London yards, Montville trackage, and scenery. There is still a long way to go, but that gives me something special to look forward to.

I want to thank Mat Thompson, MMR, for encouraging me to complete my AP requirements for MMR, and to Pete LaGuardia, Marty McGuirk, Brian Sheron, MMR, and all the other great modelers who have helped me along the way. I fully realize that I am only at the beginning of the learning curve in this great hobby and have a long, long way to go to improve my skills as a model railroader.

### Certificates Earned John Paganoni

**Master Builder—Cars**  
**Master Builder—Prototype Models**  
**Master Builder—Motive Power**  
**Master Builder—Structures**  
**Model Railroad Engineer — Electrical**  
**Model Railroad Engineer — Civil**  
**Model Railroad Author**