

# The Crossing Gate

Fall  
2006



Newsletter of the Twin Cities Division, Thousand Lakes Region, National Model Railroad Association • [www.twincitiesdivision.org](http://www.twincitiesdivision.org)

## A NEW SUPERINTENDENT

by Dennis Rogers

The conclusion of the TCD Annual Business Meeting occurred on Thursday October 12, 2006. The main agenda item was the election of a new Division Superintendent. Unlike the May meeting where there were no nominees, at this meeting three peoples' names were placed in nomination and seconded. They were: Bill Dredge, Cy Svobodny and Ron Bodin.

The new Superintendent is Ron Bodin. Ron is a 54 year old N-scale modeler from Blaine. In his first act as the new Superintendent, he called a Board of Directors meeting for the following week. He must have been on a winning streak because he also won a number of door prizes following the business meeting.

The election of a new Superintendent fills a significant gap in TCD leadership, and Ron's immediate action signals that the TCD may have turned a corner. Yet, there are still two positions that remain vacant: the NMRA Contest Chairperson and the Layout Tour Coordinator. For many of us, the home layout tours are an important part of the TCD, so if you are willing to host a tour or assume the job of Layout Tour Coordinator, let a board member know of your interest.

### The Auction is Coming, the Auction is Coming

TCD Single Whammy Auction  
promises more fun, more funds

If it's Winter it must be TCD Auction time! This year on December 14 the Twin Cities Division will hold its second annual Single Whammy Auction... which means it's time to gather together your forgotten treasures to let them become someone's newfound treasures. Then gather together your friends and dollars and get set for some fun.

Once again the Auction will be a fund raiser for the Division. Last year's Triple Whammy Auction featured over 90 items and brought over \$750 into the Division, thanks to the 50 members who participated. We're hoping that this year's event will not only meet those figures, but will top them.

Continued on Page 2



Twin Cities Division  
Board & Officers

For all Division business or questions:  
**Superintendent**  
Ron Bodin  
super@twincitiesdivision.org

To volunteer to give a clinic:  
**Assistant Superintendent**  
Bill Gisch  
asuper@twincitiesdivision.org

To volunteer for a train show or "Timetable" entries:  
**Chief Clerk**  
Dave Hohle  
clerk@twincitiesdivision.org

For membership problems, CROSSING GATE  
subscription or address problems, or website issues:  
**Paymaster & Webmaster**  
Tim Klevar  
paymaster@twincitiesdivision.org

For article or photo submissions:  
**CROSSING GATE Editor**  
Dennis Rogers  
763-780-4976  
editor@twincitiesdivision.org

For Golden Spike or NMRA Certificate questions:  
**NMRA Achievement Program**  
Dave Hamilton  
763-449-0058  
ap@twincitiesdivision.org

To volunteer your layout for a tour, or suggest one:  
**Layout Tour Coordinator**  
Position Open  
tours@twincitiesdivision.org

For hobby shop or door prize questions:  
**Public Relations**  
Don Smith  
pr@twincitiesdivision.org

**Director at Large**  
Bruce Notman  
assistant@twincitiesdivision.org

**Education Director**  
Bruce Selb  
ed@twincitiesdivision.org

**Popular Vote Contest Chairperson**  
Pam Notman

**NMRA Contest Chairman**  
position open

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Articles, photos, tips, or ideas are heartily encouraged and will be enthusiastically accepted in any format (PC or Mac; Word, Simple Text, typed, handwritten, scribbled on the back of a bar napkin, etc.). Send it to your editor by regular mail to THE CROSSING GATE, 9677 Able Street NE, Blaine, MN 55434, by email to editor@twincitiesdivision.org, or hand it to him at the next Division meeting.

Be part of the Division! If you're an NMRA member, become a Regular member of the Division (you get a year's subscription to THE CROSSING GATE, plus voting privileges) for only \$10 per year. If you're not an NMRA member, become a Subscriber (you get a year's subscription to THE CROSSING GATE) for only \$10 per year.

**Auction (con't)** This year's Auction will once again be hosted by Gerry Leone, MMR, and Bruce Notman - 2/3 of the same team that brought last year's event to the TCD. This year the team decided to hold only the "Chinese Auction" portion - hence the "Single Whammy" name.



The Chinese auction works like this: TCD members donate their unused or unwanted (but in good shape) model railroad items - any scale - to the Division. At the December 14 meeting, participants will buy special Chinese auction tickets for the normal door prize price (6 for \$5, 15 for \$10). They can then put as many tickets as they choose into the "drawing cup"

located next to each of the prizes. The more tickets a participant adds to any one cup, the better his/her chances of winning that item. The auctioneers will then draw a ticket out of each drawing cup and the winner brings home that item. Simple!

What everyone loves about a Chinese auction is that you only bid on the prizes you want... you don't have to worry about bringing home something you can't use.

Last year's prizes included engines, structure and car kits, craft paints, railroad t-shirts and more. With your help, this year's prize list will be just as bountiful. So please be generous with your donations!

**Non-TCD members are welcome, so bring your friends.**

Contributors to this issue:  
**Dave Hamilton, Jim Bernier, Steve Nitti, Gerry Leone, Scott Perry**  
**THANKS!**

Deadline for next issue:  
**December 18, 2006**

**Bring your Auction donations  
to the November 9 meeting!**



**From the Superintendent**

This space is purposely blank. The new Superintendent is too new to be expected to comment, so all of us will have to wait until the January issue to hear from him.



**From the Editor**

**M**y apologies to our new chief clerk **David Hohle** (not Houle). I am not sure where I got the misspelling, but although it was wrong, at least I was consistently wrong in the previous issue.

For the next issue of the Crossing Gate, I would like to be able to offer some modeling tips. If you have done something innovative, drop me a line and let me know about it. A lot of us can use additions to our repertoire of skills. And, if you need an answer as to how to go about doing something, we can use the Crossing Gate to find someone who may know how to accomplish what you want.



# 261 Helps Wayzata Depot Celebrate 100 years

by Dave Hamilton

The 261 Milwaukee Road steam engine returned to Wayzata for the 2006 James J Hill Days celebration on September 9th & 10th. The Friends of the 261 organization had made their last visit to Wayzata in 2000. This years James J. Hill Days event also celebrated the 100th birthday of the Wayzata Depot . Thanks to the effort of Wayzata Depot museum leader Terry Middlekauf, the BNSF agreed to act as host and allow the 261 to make round trips on Saturday and Sunday between Wayzata and Harrison Street Junction and Wayzata and Howard Lake. Well over 1500



customers bought tickets for the morning or afternoon trip each day. In addition to the 261, the Minnesota Garden Railway Society group set up a temporary garden railroad display for the weekend. The presence of the 261 and the garden railroad added to the 10 to 12 trains a day that normally pass through Wayzata, giving the annual event a real railroad flavor.

On Friday, September 8th, the day before the Wayzata event, I made a lunchtime visit to Harrison Junction. I am employed by a company that is located 1.7 miles west of Harrison Junction - the home of the 261. I took a few pictures of the locomotive making up the train for the weekend's activities. I always try to visit the facility the day before any of the 261's trips - unfortunately I only get a 45 minute lunch break, so I always keep my fingers crossed and my camera in the car.

My previous rides behind the 261 have included trips between Duluth and Biwabik, a one way ride between Saint Paul and LaCrosse, round trip to LaCrosse, Winona and back to Minneapolis and the 2000 ride from Wayzata to Harrison. But this time I decided to splurge on a First Class ticket and ride to Howard Lake in style. I bought a Premium ticket which allowed me to ride in

the Superdome or the Sky Top observation car (named "Cedar Rapids"). The upgrade was worth every penny. The view from the



Superdome was better than I had imagined. And it was a great way to spend a few hours with other railfans who appreciate the opportunity to ride in beautifully restored cars over track that normally does not carry passenger trains. The 261 ran it's final trips for the season on October 7th and 8th between Minneapolis and LaCresent.

By the way, the ex Great Northern Depot in Wayzata is open to the public on the weekends. It is worth a visit as the waiting room still appears as it did during its last scheduled passenger service in 1968. The telegraph equipment in the station operator's bay is still intact and the weekend docents are always happy to show you around.



## TCD Timetable

**THURSDAY, Nov. 9, 2006 7:00 pm**  
MODELING CLINIC - (to be determined)  
PROTO PRESENTATION - (to be determined)  
POPULAR VOTE MODEL CONTEST -  
Passenger cars: detailed interiors (lighting optional)

**THURSDAY, Dec. 14, 2006 7:00 pm**  
AUCTION NIGHT  
POPULAR VOTE MODEL CONTEST -  
Christmas Train

**THURSDAY, Jan. 11, 2007 7:00 pm**  
MODELING CLINIC - (to be determined)  
PROTO PRESENTATION - Trip to Northlantz by David Hohle  
POPULAR VOTE MODEL CONTEST - Square Foot Diorama: Railroad Crossings

**THURSDAY, Feb. 8, 2007 7:00 pm**  
MODELING CLINIC - (to be determined)  
PROTO PRESENTATION - (to be determined)  
POPULAR VOTE MODEL CONTEST -  
Oversized flat car loads (more than one car)

**THURSDAY, Mar. 9, 2007 7:00 pm**  
MODELING CLINIC - Model Rail Fanning by Lynn McCall  
PROTO PRESENTATION - (to be determined)  
POPULAR VOTE MODEL CONTEST - Shay's Engines--all types

**THURSDAY, Apr. 12, 2007 7:00 pm**  
SHOW AND TELL DISPLAYS-(Train Projects)  
POPULAR VOTE MODEL CONTEST -  
Whimsical Railroads / NMRA Merit Point Judging

**THURSDAY, May 10, 2007 7:00 pm**  
ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING.

For updates, visit our website at:  
[www.twincitiesdivision.org](http://www.twincitiesdivision.org)

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by Dennis Rogers

# The Home Road

So, we've all heard the hype about being "number 1," but as far as the TCD goes, there is no question about who is number one. Les Breuer holds the position of the first member of the division, and well he should. He was the first Superintendent of the TCD, and has been an active participant and officer since.

I had the pleasure of spending nearly three hours one-on-one with Les at his south Minneapolis home. Now a retired accountant, Les has made a pact with himself that many of us ought to consider...Les dedicates an hour per day to modeling. That got me to thinking, if I were to spend an hour per day on my own layout; perhaps my layout would have Hydrocal® mountains instead of mountains of dust from lack of attention. One hour per day doesn't seem like a huge commitment, and it adds up. Instead of an occasional 6-8 hour marathon session, Les' philosophy about committing time to his hobby gets him involved in his layout in small doses that get projects done. How much would your layout improve with a certained 30 hours per month?

To me, Les' layout has appeared to be quite complete for several years. I had recollections (albeit some vague ones) of visiting Les' layout back in the mid 80's, and the layout seemed to be not much different today than my memories from back then. Of course, having the layout builder provide me with a personalized, guided tour got me to realize that there was much I had not remembered or never noticed in previous visits, and there was also much that had changed. Les' layout is not stagnant but a dynamic work in progress.

But for Les, the physical layout is secondary to the operational layout. As Les put it, "operations are the life blood of model railroading." If he is right, many of us are in dire need of a transfusion. Although I've read a lot of articles on operations and I have read Bruce Chubb's book, How to Operate your Model Railroad, I don't think that I had ever appreciated the satisfaction that is derived from a well thought out

operations system. Les is a true believer! He has been part of a Tuesday night operating group that has existed for more than three decades, and his operating system is remarkable.

Les told me that there were about 75 cars on the layout. My initial reaction was, "Shoot, I have about 75 cars on my layout. What's the big deal?" But as he went on to explain, there are about 75 car on the layout at any given time, and every car is either 1) off-line to on-line traffic (coming from another part of North America to the Minneapolis & Northern), 2) on-line to off-line (leaving the Minneapolis & Northern for a destination

somewhere in another part of the Continent), 3) off-line to off-line (bridge route traffic), or on-line to on-line traffic (moving from one part of the modeled world to another part of the layout).

Les uses a car forwarding system which is similar to those that have been frequently described in the model railroad press, but the difference is that Les' system involves an inventory of cars that is about four times larger than the 75 or so cars that are on the layout at any given point in time. As an accountant, it is probably Les' nature to keep impeccable records. Each car has a corresponding card that makes its way through the system until the card (and the car) arrives on the Minneapolis & Northern trackage. Some cars only get to the M & N once every four years; to wit Les showed me a cupboard filled with boxes containing individual cars that were somewhere else in North America at the moment. Suddenly, a small LED came on in my head. Oh! This railroad really does operate like the real world! That cupboard of cars



Les and the Minneapolis & Northern



Look carefully! These HO scale cars have Minnesota license plate from 1955.

represents Vancouver, BC, Miami, FL, Wichita, KS, Ashland, WI, and everywhere else in the North American rail system, and the industries that are modeled on the Minneapolis & Northern tracks receive or send cargo as needed to keep the businesses running. I came away from my visit with a new perspective on the importance of operations. (By the way, his work area is as well organized as his records which I am convinced makes modeling go faster and be more enjoyable.)

My visit was not limited to the operations on the Minneapolis & Northern. Les also gave me some perspective on the operation of model railroad organizations in general, and the TCD in particular. We both acknowledged that the TCD is going through some tough times, and that some things are beyond our ability to change. But, Les is an optimist, and he believes that much of what ails us can be reversed. He knows about getting organizations to grow, as he was among the small group of pioneers who got the TCD off the ground. Les believes that to get the division to grow again, people need to sell the "idea" of the division, and of late, that has not been happening. He believes that we need to remind ourselves what benefits we accrue from being members, and we need to reestablish those benefits which we have allowed to go into decline. Les thinks that part of what we need to do to sell the "idea" of the division is to get out before the public again so that the general population sees model railroading as a thriving hobby and sees the TCD as a way of tapping into the hobby. Unless non-members can have contact with the organization, there is no source for new members and growth, and without growth, any organization is destined to falter. The public is clambering for involvement in our hobby as exemplified by the huge crowds that show for the big events like The World's Greatest Hobby® show last fall. If we want to continue to fulfill our mission, we need to get back to meeting the public and organizing our clinics, layout tours and social events.

Les' tries to open his home layout to visitors about every 4-5 years, and he makes it to a lot of our clinics. So, look for Les and watch for Les' layout when tours begin again. He is an infectious exuberant modeler who deserves to be our number one!



# Modeling Tips & Tricks

## 100 Often Overlooked Details

Written by: Scott G. Perry, NMRA Southeast Region

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When you are building a model it is sometimes handy to have a list of forgotten details that you might have missed. A quick review of the list is an easy way to catch oversight and increase Achievement Program points. With the help of the Internet several train enthusiasts helped me create a list of 100 often-overlooked details. If an item says (period) then it is time-period sensitive and you will need to check the era that you are modeling. Enjoy!

Up on the roof...

1. If you have a building with a flat gravel or tar roof, put some used tires on it, (if you are modeling snow country). The tires prevent ice from freezing solid and pushing the parapet wall out and thus allowing the roof collapse.
2. Model a flat gravel roof with bumps and ridges where air pockets have formed under the roofing material.
3. On the roof add an air-conditioning service man climbing from the parapet onto his ladder.
4. On the roof add an AC company rigging a multi-ton rooftop unit into place.
5. Add rust stains around smoke stacks that exit a roof, or rust running down the wall from metal hardware.
6. Place a TV antenna on every roof prior to cable (period).
7. Water tanks on many buildings in urban type environments are common.
8. Roof details like chimneys, exhaust stacks, sanitary vents, etc.
9. Roof access, hatch, and penthouse doors.
10. On roofs add leftover roof material, tar paper, little piles of gravel, pieces of lumber.
11. Satellite dishes.

Riding along in my automobile...

12. Have a guy underneath a car jacked up with a bumper jack and it has just collapsed on him, maybe use one of the Preiser male cheerleading figures, on his back, with arms and legs outstretched.
13. Use plenty of properly detailed and painted vehicles.
14. On car or truck, add "Bondo" or primer on vehicle.
15. Dents on cars and trucks
16. Fuel Oil trucks.
17. Red or yellow fire trucks.
18. On autos, sand a little off the bottom of the tires so the vehicles don't look like they're tiptoeing through the foliage.
19. Colors on cars were also rarely bright until the early 50's; with white, a greenish white, maroon, dark blue, dark green and black colors predominating. Pickup trucks were relatively rare in any but rural areas.

No place like home...

20. In earlier eras, illuminated signs were not backlit plastic; they were either neon or lighted by floodlights.
21. Window and roof mounted air conditioners.
22. Houses and businesses have numbers and mailboxes.
23. Street corner signs are everywhere.
24. Garbage pails on the curb.
25. Overflowed dumpsters behind businesses.
26. Puddles of water painted with semi-gloss black paint.
27. Leaves piled up on lawns and around curbs, drains, etc.
28. Every parking lot has a soda/ beer can somebody left behind.
29. Trailers, mobile homes, campers, motor homes, tents, etc.
30. Clothes lines with clothes drying.
31. Fire escape ladders.
32. General junk and debris.

Dancing in the street...

33. Electrical & Telephone wires
34. Streetlights.
35. Public trash containers or dumpsters.
36. Traffic lights.
37. Storm drains.
38. Man holes and covers,
39. Parking meters in every downtown area.
40. Painted crosswalks and/or signs.
41. Public phones and phone booths.
42. Newspaper machines.

43. Sand on the roads, or loose gravel.
44. Litter that gets blown against old buildings.
45. Fences of all kinds.
46. Brown glass bottles, beer bottles, soda cans.
47. Oil drips in driveways and parking spaces
48. Half moon scrapes in the pavement or dirt from swing gates that have sagged.
49. Convincing ruts and/or mud puddles in rural dirt or gravel roads.
50. Drivers/passengers in cars and in HO pass trains.
51. Weeds in sidewalk cracks and along the edge of asphalt or cement roads.
52. Markers and boxes for underground utilities.
53. One of the most commonly overlooked details is the color of the commonly included details, so check the color of the prototype.
54. Stop signs (earlier era) were yellow, not red.
55. Old, olive drab phone booths.
56. Those telephone boxes that are placed in neighborhoods, on sides of buildings, etc with the truck parked nearby.
57. Billboards.
58. A manhole cover that has a street line painted on it, rotated.

All the lonely people...

59. Someone washing the car in the driveway
60. Someone raking leaves.
61. Someone mowing the lawn.
62. People sitting on wood crates.
63. Someone working outside in the garden
64. A bicyclist with his front tire stuck in a grate.... and he's up in the air about eight feet, suspended from above on a wire.
65. People having a garage sale with lots of junk on the driveway.
66. Kids playing in the yard.
67. Paperboys selling newspapers.
68. People sitting at the bus stop.
69. People reading the newspaper.
70. Winos taking a nap or a drink.

Down by the railroad...

71. Oil stains on the ballast and ties on uphill grades and at stations, etc., where locomotives would normally sit.
72. Cinders around the tracks.
73. Rail joiners and tie (fish) plates on track and rails.
74. On rails, modern welded joints.
75. Flange greasers.
76. Cans of rail spikes.
77. Loose or used crossties.
78. Switch stands.
79. Relay stations.
80. Signals and marker boards.
81. Whistle posts.
82. When we add crews to our locomotives all too often they are looking out the cab windows as though they are staring at us!  
I prefer to have my crewmen looking into the cab at one another or out the front and back windows vs. out the side windows.

I see leaves of green...

83. Foliage everywhere - no "pool table" lawn areas, or golf club type greenery.
84. Model regional plants like Osage Orange in Illinois, Kudzu in North Carolina, Tree of Heaven and Blue Bonnets in Texas.
85. Lawns, fields, wetlands, gardens, flowerpots.
86. Patches of weeds.
87. Stumps of trees.
88. Plowed fields.
89. Puddles of water in low-lying areas with some grass or other foliage growing around it.

This and that...

90. Pigeons, dogs, cats, and other wildlife.
91. Don't forget pigeon "exhaust."
92. Goat farms
93. Bicycles in bike racks at schools and theaters.
94. Boxcar ends and doors used to make fences around storage yards, especially near railroad yards.
95. Manure and manure piles at stock pens, stables, barns, etc.
96. Horse, horse drawn rigs, hitching posts, road apples.
97. Quantity of details, either too many people, or not enough people.
98. Smells, like the aroma of a stockyard.
99. Bears in the woods, and around trash cans.
100. A model railroad club moving modules from the clubroom to the vans for a show.

# Railfan & Hobby Show CALL BOARD

COMPILED BY JIM BERNIER AND DAVE HAMILTON

**October 14, 2006 - 12th Hutchinson Model Railroad Show**, 9-4, \$3 or Kids<6 free. McLeod County Fairgrounds, Hutchinson, MN See Bruce Crosby at (320) 587-8073 for further information.

**October 14, 2006 - Wisconsin Train Expo - Super Swap Meet**, Sat 9-2, \$5 adults, \$1 kids 6-12. Location: Serb Hall, 5101 W Oklahoma Ave, Milwaukee, WI See Jim Welytok at (262) 246-7171 or [www.uniqueeventsshows.com](http://www.uniqueeventsshows.com) for further information.

**October 14-15, 2006 - 5th Eau Claire Train Show (Indianhead MRRC)**, Sat 10-5, Sun 10-4, \$4 Adults, Kids<13 free with paid adult, Regis High School, 2100 Fenwick Ave., Eau Claire, WI, See Richard at (715) 830-1204 or [ihmrcctrainshow@gmail.com](mailto:ihmrcctrainshow@gmail.com) for further information.

October 21, 2006 - **Newport Club - Woodbury Flea Market**, 10-3, \$4. Location: Woodbury Senior High School Woodbury, MN For More Info: Stan Whitingham 952-200-9729

**October 21, 2006 - Randolph Train Show**, 9-5, Free, Location: Randolph School & Museum, Randolph, MN

**October 22, 2006 - 28th Annual Spud Valley Hobby Show**, 9-3, \$3.75/under 12 free with paid adult, Location: Ramada Plaza Suits - Crystal Ballroom, 1635 42nd St S, Fargo, ND See Dennis Neumiller at 701-282-7058 or [SYMRRRC@msn.com](mailto:SYMRRRC@msn.com).

October 28, 2006 - **Dakota Southeastern Home Layout Tour**, \$5 or \$10 family (includes driving maps). Location 2 layouts in Harrisburg, 4 layouts in Sioux Falls Tickets available at: Hobbytown, 1007 W 41st St, Sioux Falls, SD For more info: 605-767-9743 or [saatkamp@iw.net](mailto:saatkamp@iw.net)

November 5, 2006 - **Dubuque Model Railroad Show**, 10 AM - 4 PM, Admission: \$3.00/ kids .50 with a paid adult, Location: Dubuque County Fairgrounds, 14569 Old Hwy Road, Dubuque, IA, For more info - 563-663-0425

November 11-12, 2006 - **Trainfest**, Sat 9:00 AM - 5:30 PM, Sun 9:30 AM - 5:00 PM, Admission: n/a, Location: Wisconsin State Fairgrounds, 8200 West Greenfield Ave, West Allis, WI, For more info - [john@trainfest.com](mailto:john@trainfest.com)

November 18, 2006 - **Greater Upper Midwest Train Show**, 9-2, Admission: \$4.00, Location: Century College, 3300 Century Ave N, White Bear Lake, MN, For more info - Tom Jefferson 651-429-2885

November 18-19, 2006 - **Duluth Model Railroad Show**, Location: Downtown Radisson Hotel, Duluth, MN, For more information: (715)394-4028, [jfingram@cpinternet.com](mailto:jfingram@cpinternet.com)

November 18-19, 2006 - **Sioux Valley Model Engineers 'Trains at Christmas' Show**, Location: W H Lyons Fairgrounds Sioux Falls, SD, For more information: [www.symes.net](http://www.symes.net)

November 25-26, 2006 - **Fairmont Model Railroad Club Open House**, 1-4, Location: Downstairs Club Roo, 301 1/2 North Downtown Plaza(Main Street), Fairmont, MN, For more info: Gordon Miller (507)526-2645, [gmliller@bevcomm.net](mailto:gmliller@bevcomm.net), Donald Oechsle (507)235-5026, [dystrophies@bevcomm.net](mailto:dystrophies@bevcomm.net)

December 2, 2006, - **Great River Rail Train Show**, 9-2:30, Admission: \$2.00, Location: St Cloud Armory, 1710 8th St N, St Cloud, MN, For more info - 320-398-3046

December 9-10, 2006, - **Fairmont Model Railroad Club Open House**, 1-4, Location: Downstairs Club Roo, 301 1/2 North Downtown Plaza(Main Street), Fairmont, MN, For more info: Gordon Miller (507)526-2645, [gmliller@bevcomm.net](mailto:gmliller@bevcomm.net), Donald Oechsle (507)235-5026, [dystrophies@bevcomm.net](mailto:dystrophies@bevcomm.net)

December 9, 2006 - **Wisconsin Train Expo - Super Swap Meet**, 9-2, Admission: \$5.00/kids 6-12 \$1.00, Location: Serb Hall, 5101 W Oklahoma Ave, Milwaukee, WI, For more info - Jim Welytok 262-246-7171, [www.uniqueeventsshows.com](http://www.uniqueeventsshows.com)

December 16-17, 2006, - **Fairmont Model Railroad Club Open House**, 1-4, Location: Downstairs Club Roo, 301 1/2 North Downtown Plaza(Main Street), Fairmont, MN, For more info: Gordon Miller (507)526-2645, [gmliller@bevcomm.net](mailto:gmliller@bevcomm.net), Donald Oechsle (507)235-5026, [dystrophies@bevcomm.net](mailto:dystrophies@bevcomm.net)

December 23, 2006, - **Fairmont Model Railroad Club Open House**, 1-4, Location: Downstairs Club Roo, 301 1/2 North Downtown Plaza(Main Street), Fairmont, MN, For more info: Gordon Miller (507)526-2645, [gmliller@bevcomm.net](mailto:gmliller@bevcomm.net), Donald Oechsle (507)235-5026, [dystrophies@bevcomm.net](mailto:dystrophies@bevcomm.net)

January 20, 2007 - **Newport Club - Woodbury Flea Market**, 10-3, \$4. Location: Woodbury Senior High School Woodbury, MN For More Info: Stan Whitingham 952-200-9729

January 27-28, 2007 - **The Great River Valley System Train Show**, 9:30-5:30 Sat & 11-4 Sun, Admission: FREE, Location: Northland Mall, Forest Lake, MN, For more info - Steve Nitti at (651) 433-3039

January 27, 2007 - **Great Tri-State Rail Sale**, 9-3, Admission: \$3.00/ under 12 free with paid adult, Location: La Crosse Center, La Crosse, WI, For more info - 608-784-0036 or 608-582-4761, [trainmaster@lacrosshortlinerr.org](mailto:trainmaster@lacrosshortlinerr.org)

February 3, 2007 - **Greater Upper Midwest Train Show**, 9-2, Admission: \$4.00, Location: Century College, 3300 Century Ave N, White Bear Lake, MN, For more info - Tom Jefferson 651-429-2885

February 17-18, 2007 - **Mad City Train Show**, 9-5 both days, Admission: \$8.00/under 12 - \$2.00, Location: Alliant Energy Center, Madison, WI, For more info - Art Dawson [nkp284@yahoo.com](mailto:nkp284@yahoo.com)

February 17-18, 2007 - **The Great River Valley System Train Show**, 9:30-5:30 Sat & 11-4 Sun, Admission: FREE, Location: Oakdale Center Mall, 10th Avenue @ I-694, Oakdale, MN, For more info - Steve Nitti at (651) 433-3039

March 31, 2007 - **Greater Upper Midwest Train Show**, 9-2, Admission: \$4.00, Location: Century College, 3300 Century Ave N, White Bear Lake, MN, For more info - Tom Jefferson 651-429-2885

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If you belong to the NMRA, please include  
your

membership #: \_\_\_\_\_



## TRAIN RIDES

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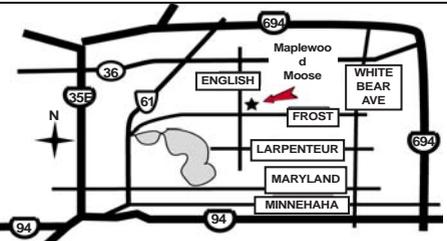
Expires April 1, 2007

# THE CROSSING GATE

Twin Cities Division, TLR, NMRA  
PO Box 2065  
Maple Grove, MN 55311

Next meeting:  
November 9 at 7:00 pm.  
Where:  
Maplewood Moose Lodge,  
1946 English St.  
Maplewood, MN

**(Check our website for any last minute changes including a possible change in venue.)**



## Local Twin Cities hobby shops & sponsors

*The listings in bold are sponsors of the Twin Cities Division. Show them your support!*

Beaumont's Quality Tools  
3539 West 44th Street  
Minneapolis, MN 55410  
(612) 922-1954

**Becker's Model Railroad Supply**  
2166 Silver Lake Road  
New Brighton, MN 55112  
(651) 635-9480  
<http://members.aol.com/wcbecker>

**Choo Choo Bob's**  
2050 Marshall Avenue  
Saint Paul, MN 55104  
(651) 646-5252

Dad's Trains  
2647 Co Rd 22 NW  
Alexandria, MN 56308  
(320) 763-6545  
bryants4@rea-alp.com

Douglas Designs  
4120 Yosemite Ave. S.  
St. Louis Park, MN 55416  
952-926-7164

**Hobbytown USA**  
7916 Brooklyn Park Blvd.  
Brooklyn Park, MN 55445  
(763) 424-5900  
[http://www.hobbytown.com/zcl/detail.html?zcl\\_info\\_id=14](http://www.hobbytown.com/zcl/detail.html?zcl_info_id=14)

**Hobbytown USA**  
11319 Highway 7  
Minnetonka, MN 55305  
(952) 931-2262  
[http://www.hobbytown.com/zcl/detail.html?zcl\\_info\\_id=15](http://www.hobbytown.com/zcl/detail.html?zcl_info_id=15)

**Hobbytown USA**  
1750 Weir Drive  
Woodbury, MN 55125  
(651) 702-0355  
[http://www.hobbytown.com/zcl/detail.html?zcl\\_info\\_id=73](http://www.hobbytown.com/zcl/detail.html?zcl_info_id=73)

**Hobby Zone**  
1960 Cliff Lake Road Suite 115  
Eagan, MN 55122  
(651) 905-9523  
<http://hobbyzone.com>

**Hub Hobby Center**  
82 Minnesota Ave.  
Little Canada, MN 55117  
(651) 490-1675  
<http://hubhobbycenter.com>

**Hub Hobby Center**  
6416 Penn Avenue S  
Richfield, MN 55423  
(612) 866-9575  
<http://hubhobby.com>

Ill Rail Trains  
535 Northdale Blvd. NW  
Coon Rapids, MN 55448  
(763) 767-9545

Minnesota Transportation Museum  
193 Pennsylvania Ave. E.  
St. Paul, MN 55101  
(651) 228-0263  
<http://www.mtmuseum.org>

**The N Shop**  
3956 Lyndale Avenue N  
Minneapolis, MN 55412  
(612) 521-8909

Northern Scale Models  
PO Box 27354  
Minneapolis, MN 55427  
(763) 475-0647  
<http://www.northernscale.com/>

**Only Trains**  
7780 State Highway 55  
Rockford, MN 55373  
(763) 477-6186 or (800) 789-5738

**Osceola & St. Croix Valley Railway**  
P.O. Box 176  
114 Depot RD  
Osceola, WI 54020  
715-755-3570  
<http://www.trainride.org>

Osseo Train World  
340 Central Avenue  
Osseo, MN 55369  
(763) 425-7171

Prairie Works Productions  
6300 Sequoia Circle  
Eden Prairie, MN 55346  
<http://www.prairie-works.com>

**Scale Model Supplies**  
458 Lexington Parkway  
Saint Paul, MN 55104  
(651) 646-7781  
<http://www.scalemodelsupplies.com>